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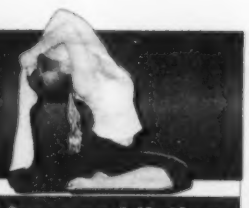
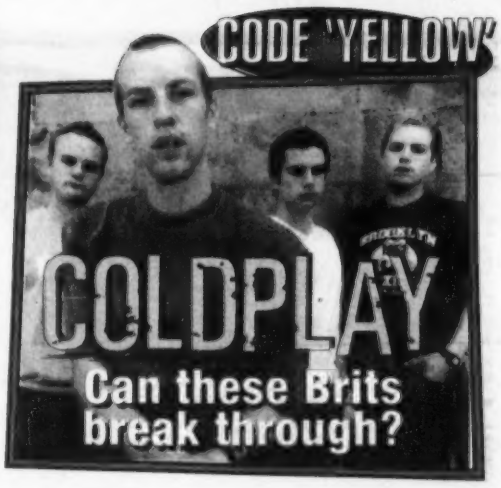
FEBRUARY 16–22, 2001 • BOSTON'S LARGEST WEEKLY • FOUR SECTIONS

THE BOSTON Phoenix

NINA WILLDORF endures 'yoga torture'





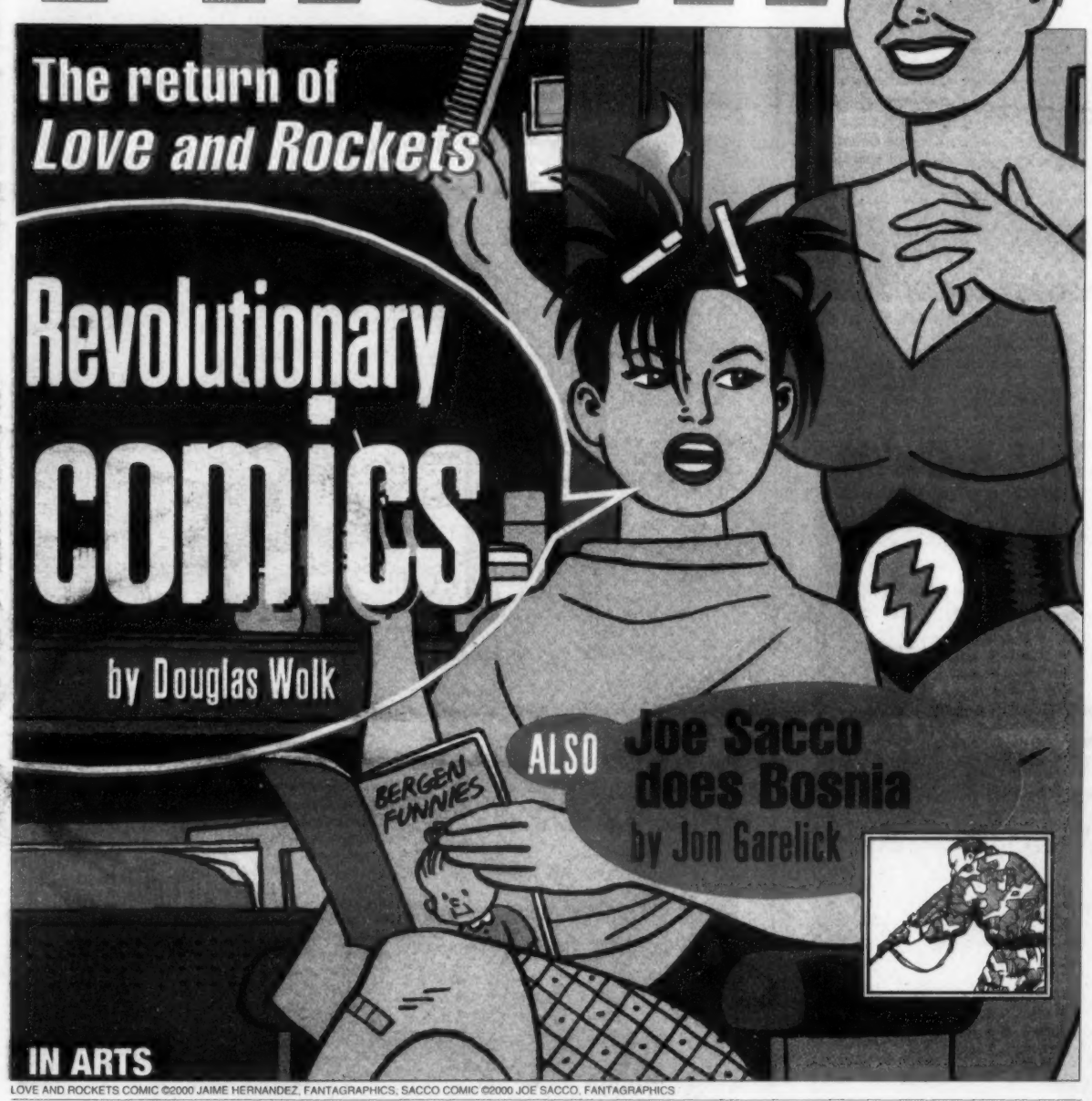
The return of *Love and Rockets*

Revolutionary comics

by Douglas Wolk

ALSO Joe Sacco does Bosnia

by Jon Garelick



IN ARTS

LOVE AND ROCKETS COMIC ©2000 JAIME HERNANDEZ, FANTAGRAPHICS. SACCO COMIC ©2000 JOE SACCO, FANTAGRAPHICS

TO RUN OR NOT TO RUN

The Hub's Hamlet

Joe Kennedy looks like a candidate, walks like a candidate, and sounds like a candidate. So is he a candidate?

BY SETH GITELL

ADD THE TERM "stealth campaign" to the lexicon of American politics. Hillary Rodham Clinton conducted just such a campaign between November 1998 and the following July, when she mulled whether or not to run for the US Senate seat vacated by New York's Daniel Patrick Moynihan. During those months, Clinton began showing up at community events and award ceremonies throughout the Empire State and secretly huddled with Liz Moynihan, the departing senator's wife, to line up support and plan her campaign. Although in many ways Clinton's duties as first lady constrained her from announcing early, she made sure to take full advantage of the opportunities that the role provided her — most memorably, all those free trips to New York. We're seeing something similar in former US congressman Joe Kennedy's waffling over whether to run for governor.

Weld-Cellucci shortchanged voters

a *Phoenix* editorial

The Clintons — despite Bill's efforts — aren't quite the Kennedys, but the clans have something in common: the ability to draw a crowd. That means if Kennedy were to run for governor of Massachusetts, it would set off a media feeding frenzy — something he'd probably like to avoid. Thus, a stealth candidacy makes sense. And that's just what Kennedy seems to be launching.

In fact, Kennedy looks, acts, and sounds like a candidate for the 2002 governor's race — even though he's repeatedly made it clear that he is not in the race. Last Wednesday, he wrote an op-ed piece for the *Globe* about Haiti. And, thanks to the crisis in home-heating oil, his Citizens Energy 1-877-JOE-4-OIL advertisements are almost as ubiquitous on local television as those featuring the mug of Secretary of State William Galvin.

Democratic sources say that shortly after Christmas, Kennedy reportedly sought advice from none other than Robert Shrum, Democratic political consultant to former vice-president Al Gore and Senator Ted Kennedy, to discuss the possibility of running for governor in Massachusetts. Shrum, so the story goes, advised Kennedy to wait as long as possible before announcing, so as to put off the press. Shrum did not return phone calls or an e-mail inquiry for this article. When asked by the *Phoenix* whether he'd consulted with Shrum, Kennedy denied it. Though he later stated, perhaps jokingly, "that he

See **KENNEDY,** *page 26*

SECOND CHANCES

Jane's defense, weakly

Can the most unpopular politician in the state change her media image? It won't be easy. But observers say it's not impossible, either.

BY DAN KENNEDY

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD once observed that "there are no second acts in American life." Yet he's been proven wrong so many times that these days it's generally cited for comic relief rather than as a stern admonition. And nowhere was Fitzgerald more off the mark than in politics. From Richard Nixon to Bill Clinton, politicians reinvent themselves over and over again, shucking off the sleaze of the past the way a snake periodically sheds its skin.

So don't count out Jane Swift just yet. With Governor Paul Cellucci ready to take the first dogsled north, Swift, known mainly for a taxpayer-funded helicopter ride and for dumping her baby on her resentful staff, has a chance to undergo the sort of image transformation that could put her once-promising career back on track. As lieutenant governor, Swift has been viewed mainly as an arrogant yuppie with an overweening sense of entitlement. As acting governor, she needs to change the story line — to, say, hard-working career mom with twins on the way.

Can she do it? It's not going to be easy, given the events of the past year, when Swift's behavior seemed crass even by the low standards of Massachusetts politics. There was the aides-as-baby-sitters story, which ultimately earned her a $1250 fine from the State Ethics Commission. There was the helicopter ride home for Thanksgiving. There were the lucrative teaching gig at Suffolk and the subsidized apartment in Charlestown, both of which she gave up with obvious reluctance, and her sneering non-apology apology. By the end of 2000, polls showed her with an astoundingly bad favorable/unfavorable percentage rating of 17/59, even as her less-

See **SWIFT,** *page 20*

Eminem and Elton John

See 'This Just In,' page 9

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Blake Babies with Starlight Mints
The Blake Babies are Juliana Hatfield, Freda Love Smith, John Strohm, and Daniel Johnston
Friday, March 9 6:30pm Doors, 7:30pm show

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6:30pm doors, 7:30pm showtime

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August 13, 1999 issue • Arts & Entertainment • Boston Phoenix

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contents

FEBRUARY 16, 2001

Phœnix

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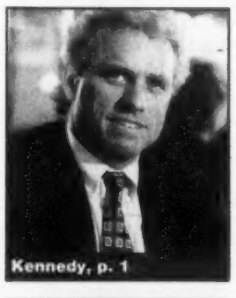
"One of things I think we have to do is stop thinking about men as children who somehow are not capable of being in touch with their emotions.... We can't keep acting like somehow men are so stupid that this is just what a man's gonna do and then he can stand up and say, 'Oh, I'm so sorry,' as Clinton did and now Jesse Jackson."

— bell hooks, News and Features, page 30

news and features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Joe Kennedy can't seem to make up his mind whether he's running for governor of Massachusetts. Is it all an HRC-like stealth campaign?

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Media players dish advice on the soon-to-be acting governor's badly needed public-opinion makeover.

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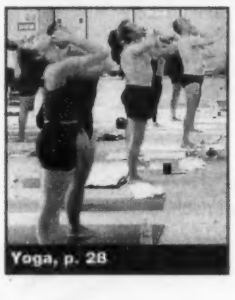
Big money got Bush II into the White House, and now the Bush Cabinet reflects the extent of his, er, debt. A former US congressman and self-described populist gives us the lowdown on who's in charge, hack by hack.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KENNEDY AND SWIFT PHOTOS BY MARK OSTOW; YOGA PHOTO BY MOLLY HAMILL

8 days a week

Our pick of the week is the all-day rockabilly show being organized by the Raging Teens; in "State of the Art," Mike Miliard talks with Tom Verlaine about the former Television guitarist's upcoming show at the MFA; in "Next Weekend," Michael Endelman fills us in on a record-release show at Axis by quirky local dance-music label Ritual Recordings; cinéma-vérité pioneers Albert and David Maysles get a retrospective at BU; and Erykah Badu comes to the Orpheum.

Dining: In "Dining Out," Robert Nadeau visits the new Salamander six years after he reviewed the original; in "Uncorked," David Marglin enjoys the wonderful wizardry of wine writer Oz Clarke; in "On the Cheap," Elisabeth Townsend finds an urban oasis in Amelia's Trattoria; and in "Noshing," Nina Willdorf craves a crate of clementines.

arts

Love and Rockets, p. 12

A comics classic reborn, page 12

After 15 years and 50 issues, the Hernandez brothers — Jaime and Gilbert — decided to give *Love and Rockets* a rest in 1996. Now they're back, as brilliant as ever, with their "pure comics" virtuoso mix of image and narrative. Douglas Wolk gives us the complete *L&R* rundown. Plus, Jon Garelick looks at the award-winning comic-book war journalism of Joe Sacco.

Also: Gary Susman tells us about breakout Brit band Coldplay; in "Cellars by Starlight," Brett Milano talks to local rock band Orbit about how they survived the alt-rock crash and came out sounding even better; Peter Keough says that a new series at the HFA shows there's more to current Asian cinema than *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*; Carolyn Clay sits on the aisle for a rousing rendition of August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson*; Matt Ashare talks with veteran producers Sean Slade and Paul Kolderie about their supergroup Raisins in the Sun and the near-classic rock album they created in 10 days; and Richard C. Walls listens to Pavement guy Stephen Malkmus's solo debut.

next week

In Arts, we review the new Dave Matthews CD.

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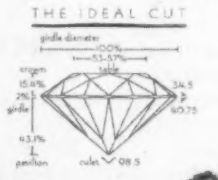

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EDITORIAL

Weld and Cellucci shortchanged voters

A political void

DURING THE 1980s, Massachusetts became a one-party state when the Democrats won — and held onto — *all* statewide offices for the first time. William Weld's election over Democratic challenger John Silber in 1990 was hailed as an end to that era. Indeed, a *Boston Globe* editorial written just after Weld's election trumpeted the "return of the two-party system." If only.

The past decade of the Weld-Cellucci reign, which is coming to an end now that President George W. Bush has nominated Cellucci as ambassador to Canada, has done little for the state GOP. When Weld and Cellucci were first elected in 1990, they were joined by 16 Republican senators and 32 Republican representatives. In 2001, there are just six GOP senators out of 40 and 26 GOP representatives out of 160. In other words, Weld and Cellucci squandered an opportunity to rebuild the state's Republican Party.

Does this sound as if the *Phoenix*, which endorsed Weld in 1990 and 1994, wants a stronger state GOP? With the adage "Be careful what you wish for, because you might get it" firmly in mind, we do.

In many ways, the Weld regime was a successful one. In the state's liberal Brahmin tradition, he signed historic legislation protecting gay and lesbian students from harassment in public schools. He ended former governor Michael Dukakis's draconian policy of not allowing gay men and lesbians to become foster parents. And he made bold appointments of openly gay men and lesbians to key positions in government, such as Mitchell Adams as revenue commissioner and Michael Duffy as chair of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination. It's hard to imagine Silber having done the same.

Weld's departure from the governor's office midway through his second term — to pursue, unsuccessfully, the position of US envoy to Mexico — elevated Paul Cellucci to the job. To some extent, Cellucci continued the socially liberal tone set by Weld. When he appointed Margaret Marshall to the Supreme Judicial Court, the panel was the only state supreme court in the country to have a majority of women — which it maintained until Ruth Abrams retired last year.

When the political leadership at Massport collapsed, he appointed as executive director his trusted adviser Virginia Buckingham. When skeptics claimed she wasn't seasoned enough for the job, Cellucci rightly pointed out that similar criticism would not have been directed at a man with Buckingham's level of experience. All this was good for the state.

Unfortunately, however, this social liberalism was accompanied by the GOP's fiscal policies. Weld, for instance, presided over the privatization of human-service agencies, which saved the state a bundle of money in the early 1990s. Today, we know the cost was too high. The patchwork of agencies that feed and house the poor and homeless, care for the mentally ill and retarded, and mind our young and old is collapsing. Even those agencies still under the state's jurisdiction are hurting. Just last July, a federal judge ordered Cellucci to make good on the state's obligation to house mentally retarded adults who cannot live independently.

Under Weld and Cellucci, the Big Dig's budget ballooned by several billion dollars over what we expected to pay. To be fair, some of this came as a result of neighborhood opposition to the horrid Scheme Z plan for the Charles River, which was eventually scrapped and replaced with the much more elegant (and expensive) Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Freedom Bridge. But much of it came from inefficient management.

Last November, Cellucci pushed through a tax rollback that will decrease the state income-tax rate from 5.85 percent to five percent. He argued that in 1989, when the tax rate was increased to 5.85 percent, the state was in the midst of a fiscal meltdown and political leaders, including then-governor Dukakis, promised that the tax rate would eventually be rolled back. All of that is true. What Cellucci forgot to mention during his aggressive campaign, however, is that in the mid 1990s, he and Weld (with the help of a spineless Democratic leadership on Beacon Hill) pushed through about $1 billion in tax breaks to Raytheon and Fidelity and cuts in the estate and capital-gains taxes. Do taxpayers deserve the rollback? Of course. But can the state really afford it after granting massive corporate welfare to Fidelity and Raytheon earlier in the decade? Not without a lot of belt-tightening — and you can bet it'll be directed at our already weakened human-services system.

Clearly, what this state needs is a political party — a Democratic Party — that will pursue Weld's social liberalism in combination with responsible government initiatives to care for our needy, provide our students with a world-class education, and keep our budget balanced. But as long as Massachusetts remains a one-party state — which it is, absent a strong GOP — we're not going to get that. The state's Democratic Party is built on personalities and personal loyalty. As a result, the party is less about ideology than opportunity. That's why our Democratic leaders are all over the map on social issues such as reproductive freedom and gay rights, as well as on fiscal issues like how much money to spend on our public schools.

Give us a political party with the courage to say no to tax breaks to Fidelity and Raytheon. Give us a political party with the courage to appoint gay men and lesbians to positions of power. Give us a political party that will lead society in keeping its obligations to its weakest members.

We won't get that from the current political set-up. ■

What do you think? Send an e-mail to letters@phx.com.

ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL KUPPERMAN

LETTERS

We welcome responses from our readers. Letters should be typed (double-spaced), if possible, and must include the writer's name, address, and a telephone number where he or she can be reached during business hours for verification. The writer's name and position or town will be published, but these may be withheld for good reason.

Letters may be mailed to the Boston Phoenix, *126 Brookline Avenue, Boston, MA 02215; faxed to (617) 859-8201; or e-mailed to letters@phx.com or to staff writers' e-mail addresses (e-mailed letters must include a telephone number for verification and a hometown). All letters are subject to editing for considerations of space, fairness, and clarity.*

ON THE RECORD

While I was generally pleased to see the ambitious *Phoenix* legislative agenda for the 2001-'02 session [Editorial, News and Features, February 2], I could not help noticing the absence of one of last session's most important quality-of-life issues: the extension of MBTA operating hours. Last session I filed legislation calling for the extension of MBTA weekend service, and the *Phoenix* wholeheartedly supported the issue. I have refiled the bill this session and hope that the *Phoenix* will continue to support the concept of making public transportation more accessible to the people it serves.

Senator Steven Tolman
Boston

I would like to clarify my remark in the article about the vote to eliminate term limits for the House Speaker ["House Calls," TJI, News and Features, February 2]. I said that I'd "never gotten any of the things I've requested." The "things" I don't get are committee assignments, paid leadership positions, or staff.

However, my independence does not seem to hurt my constituents. Somerville's education aid has doubled while I've been here. And I'm part of a coalition that has been able to pass bills that benefit working families, such as increases in the minimum wage and earned-income tax credit.

Representative Pat Jehlen
Somerville

In Iris Fanger's review of the Merrimack Repertory Theatre production of *From the Mississippi Delta* [Arts, January 26], the appalling murder of Emmett Till is made worse by a reference to sexual mutilation — of which there is no historical evidence whatsoever. The reviewer failed to distinguish between dramatic license and the facts of the 1955 case, which were bad enough.

Stephen Whitfield
Lexington

'ENEMY' ALLY

Certain remarks by letter writers in the February 9 issue compel this citizen to respond.

Josh Kagan asserts that "the military has been perhaps the largest force for social mobility, especially for racial and ethnic minorities, that this country has ever seen." This is open to question. The US Commission on Civil Rights reported that most women in the military experience sexual harassment, and one in 10 is sexually assaulted. Though a third of enlisted personnel are of color, only 13 percent of officers are. Furthermore, according to a recent survey, only 12 percent of men and six percent of women made use of their military skills later in civilian jobs. Unemployment for young male veterans is 31 percent higher than among non-veterans of the same age; women veterans face 58 percent higher unemployment.

Seth Gitell is charged with making biased, bigoted statements in his January 26 piece, "Enemy Occupies Washington." While he may have exaggerated certain things, yours truly found his article honest, fair, and accurate in the main. Some readers may not mind a militarist, right-wing, quasi-fascist administration and pro-business economy, but I do.

Barry Hart
Somerville

LIVING WAGE

You hit a bull's-eye with the article on pay for direct-care workers ["Paying Fair," News and Features, January 12]. I have a 25-year-old mentally retarded daughter — she's very high-functioning, lives in an apartment with another young woman with MR, and holds down a part-time job. We have not seen too much turnover in the direct-care workers assisting my daughter, but it has been a nightmare for other families. The situation is now at the crisis stage. With the courts ordering DMR to eliminate the wait list, the need for direct-care workers will increase, but how can the service be expanded when people won't go into that line of work because the pay is too low? Unfortunately, I'm not optimistic about any pay increases this year — the political will just isn't there.

Jim Powers
Tewksbury

CORRECTION

The "Urban Buy" item in the February 9 issue confused two stores, Allston Beat and Ozone. Tommy Cole is a salescutie at Ozone, not Allston Beat. UFO pants are available at Ozone, which is located at 336 Newbury Street in Boston; call (617) 421-4464.

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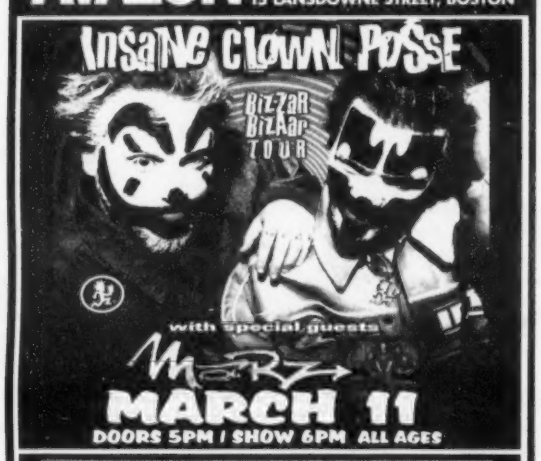

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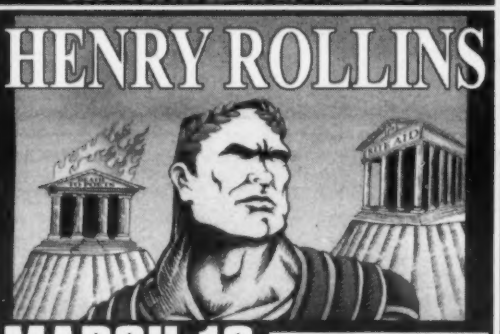

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AFTER DEADLINE

Trick daddies

Penn & Teller's 25th

BY MATT ASHARE

MAGIC SHTICKS: *Penn & Teller have decided to move "out of the field of magic and into the field of religion."*

IF YOU'RE A Penn & Teller fan, chances are you've seen some portion of the material that makes up the duo's 25th Anniversary Tour, which is stationed at the Shubert Theatre through February 25. In fact, it's likely that you've caught them performing most, if not all, of the show's routines in some way, shape, or form, as the mismatched pair have been a fairly ubiquitous presence on television and stage since at least 1985, when their PBS special *Penn & Teller Go Public* won two Emmys. That is to say, they've been hard to miss. Especially the six-and-a-half-foot-tall, 280-pound, ponytailed Penn, whose ability to overcompensate effortlessly for the relative meekness of his silent partner Teller with an endless barrage of verbiage is matched only by the expansiveness of his Dennis Miller–like vocabulary.

None of this makes the .357 Magnum–powered "Double-Bullet Catch" that ends the current show, or anything else that takes place in either of the two acts, less amazing. That's because the key to magic — and, despite any contrary notions, Penn & Teller do perform magic tricks, make no mistake about it — is that no matter how many times you watch the same routine, you never really see how it's done. The magic is in concealing the trick. The rest is just window-dressing. Shtick. Smoke and mirrors. Scantily clad women "assistants" and lions, tigers, and bears. The Wizard of Oz.

And therein lies the true twisted genius of Penn & Teller. All magicians come to the stage with basically the same bag of tricks wrapped in various layers of disbelief-suspending show-biz production, but Penn & Teller up the ante by stripping away the usual trappings of a big-budget magic show. More important, they pretend to let the audience in on how the tricks are done. There are no shapely Dorothies or rabbits in hats to distract you, just the workaday stagehands who wheel out various props and sweep away debris between acts, and an odd couple of guys in gray suits doing their thing. And, well, a bunny that may or may not end up in a wood chipper. The Penn & Teller shtick — and it's a big shtick — is that they've got no shtick.

The 25th Anniversary Tour show, which runs a little over two hours, is divided into two parts, with a short but entertaining intermission. (Penn, after talking circles around the audience about the nature of scientific inquiry, invites spectators to pay 25 cents for the privilege of coming up on stage during the break to inspect a barrel that he popped out of in the first act.) The production opens with Penn and Teller taking the stage concealed within giant, inflated Penn & Teller puppets. Then they perform a simple trick where the big guy tosses a deck of cards in the air and fires a bullet through a card selected by an audience member and accidentally punctures the little guy's big-puppet suit. Got it? Okay, but the real trick has nothing to do with the cards, even though Penn's aim is indeed true. Because, while everyone's wondering whether he hit the correct card or not, the focus shifts to who, if anyone, is really inside the giant puppets. I'm not gonna give away the punch line, so to speak.

Penn & Teller never give it all away either. In fact, it's the crucial balance between what's hidden and what's revealed that makes the show work. Using yet another audience member, Penn (with Teller's able assistance) offers a knife-throwing demonstration in which all is revealed to everyone except the hapless volunteer. It's a trick with no magic. But it has a finely honed point, namely that behind every skillfully executed feat of magic is nothing more than a mundane series of deceptions designed, at least in part, to make the audience feel stupid on some level. Penn drives the point home at the end of the routine by menacingly imploring viewers to keep their mouths shut about what just transpired.

The best parts of the show are, like the knife-throwing routine, the feats that come with a somewhat subversive subtext that's often as compelling and important as the trick itself. By way of introducing a routine that has the silent Teller magically mending a long swath of polyester cloth that has been cut and then tied together, Penn, without mentioning him by name, pokes fun at a certain minor media celebrity who maintains that he has the God-given power to bend spoons. He then adds that Penn & Teller have opted to move "out of the field of magic and into the field of religion — it's a lateral move." The trick itself is rather mundane, but the way it's framed is both amusing and provocative.

Similarly, there's a flag-burning routine that involves a clever bit of sleight of hand in the second act. The bit is actually a clever metaphorical twist on the old trick where an object (in this case a cloth) is placed in a paper cone, a wand is waved over it, and the cone is revealed to be empty. Penn & Teller replace the cloth with an American flag, the paper with a copy of the Bill of Rights, and the magic wand with a lighter. The flag may be gone in a fiery flash — in fact, using the Chinese "Bill of Rights" (a clear piece of acetate), Penn later reveals that Teller has secreted the flag in a hidden pocket on the back of Penn's jacket — but the Bill of Rights remains intact. Of course, the pair never do explain how the flag ends up attached to that pole on the corner of the stage. That's the magic part. ■

The performance reviewed here took place after the Phoenix *Arts section had gone to press.*

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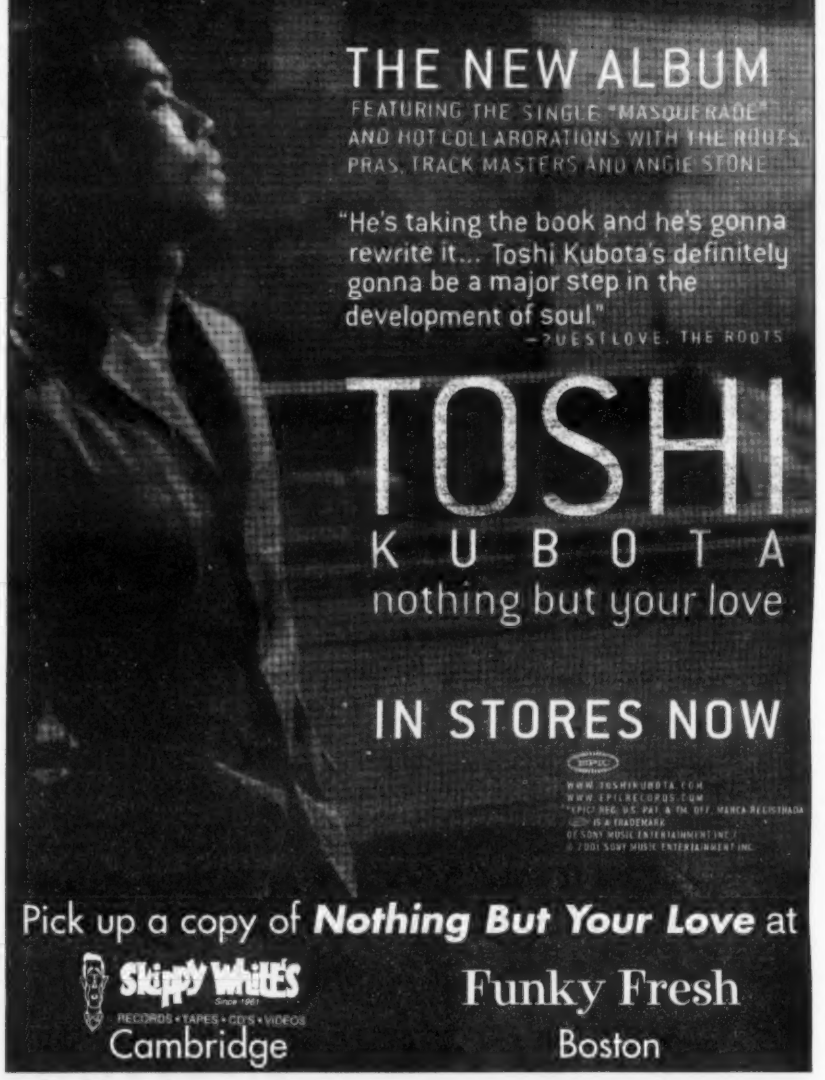

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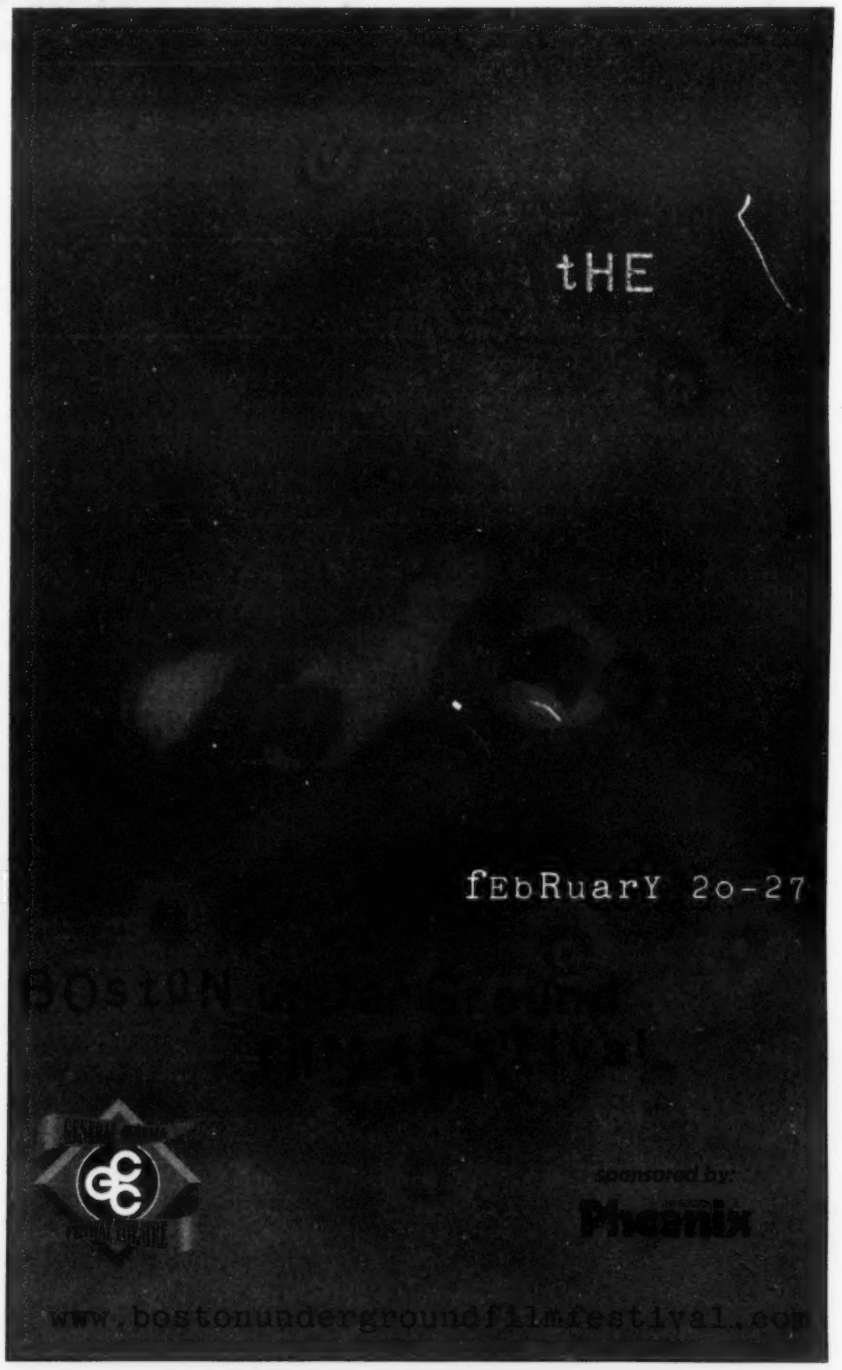


tji (this just in)

PROTEST

People, get ready

When the Summit of the Americas convenes in Quebec City this April, the heads of state of 34 Western Hemisphere nations (no, Fidel won't be there) and a gallimaufry of corporate bigwigs will discuss the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA), an accord that would, in effect, extend the guiding principles of NAFTA to North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean within the next half-decade. President Bush is a fan of the measure. Many, many activists — like those seen at the chaotic World Trade Organization protests in Seattle and the World Bank/IMF talks in Washington, DC — are not.

Canadian officials, with visions of Seattle dancing in their heads, are planning tight security. Constable Julie Brongel, a spokesperson for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, notes that the walled city will have an additional fence erected around it. Also, those who work or live within its perimeters will have to show IDs whenever they pass through. And, in one of the largest security mobilizations in Canadian history, federal, provincial, and municipal police will work as a group to keep the peace.

Many protesters are already complaining about what they're sure will be severely compromised rights of assembly. "They're doing everything possible to prevent legitimate protest and convince people not to come," says Mike Prokosch of Boston-based United for a Fair Economy. "They basically can't hold one of these global-trade meetings anymore without suspending democracy. Canada, one of the most advanced democracies in the world, is being turned into an armed camp so they can host this very important meeting."

Replies Brongel: "Of course we live in a democracy. But we have to maintain a balance, at the same time offering security to residents, businesses, journalists, and everyone that will be present. It is quite a task. Certainly we understand that we can't make everybody happy."

In a build-up to the April bash, two Canadian activist groups, Montreal's Anti-Capitalism Convergence (French acronym: CLAC) and Quebec City's Summit of the Americas Welcoming Committee (CASA), have been traveling in "caravans" throughout Ontario, the Maritimes, and New England educating like-minded souls about the issues at stake with the FTAA. This Friday and Saturday, the two organizations will be in Boston to conduct a series of workshops and teach-ins in conjunction with local groups like the Community Church of Boston, the Lucy Parsons Center, and the Boston FTAA Task Force.

Their goal, says CLAC member Jaggi Singh, is to establish "face-to-face contact" with Boston-area activists to "talk about what kind of movement we want, what our goals are." It also wouldn't hurt, he adds, if Boston activists joined their Canadian counterparts this April.

This Friday, February 16, workshops on "Basics of the FTAA and the Summit of the Americas" and "Anti-Racism and the Colors of Resistance" will be held at noon at Harvard Divinity School, Andover Hall, located at 45 Francis Avenue in Cambridge. There will also be a campus-wide teach-in at 5 p.m. at Tufts University in Medford.

This Saturday, February 17, an anti-FTAA community meeting will be held at noon at the Community Church of Boston, located at 565 Boylston Street in Boston. A "Gender and Globalization" panel discussion will be held at 7 p.m. at the Lucy Parsons Center Bookstore, located at 549 Columbus Avenue in Boston.

For more information about any of these events, call the Lucy Parsons Center at (617) 267-6272, or visit www.quebec2001.net.

— Mike Millard

BALLS

Merger most foul

At 10 o'clock last Saturday morning, a handful of bleary-eyed locals gathered at the Plough & Stars in Cambridge to watch two English Premier League clubs play football (for devotees of the game, it's never *soccer*). Some of the people wore the royal blue of Chelsea. The majority, though, wore the red of Manchester United. Not incidentally, these guys also wore expressions of smug anticipation. It was a match that United was expected to win, so when Chelsea scored a goal early on, those of us whose hearts belong to the London club went berserk. Oh, joy.

Before long, however, the great juggernaut of United came to life, rolling over Chelsea in a series of searing, irresistible attacks. Inevitably, the favorites scored, and now it was time for United's fans to go wild. Bastards. The game ended up a tie, which was supposed to be some sort of victory for Chelsea. United, after all, currently holds an unassailable lead at the top of the Premier League table — champions-elect with a third of the season to go. Chelsea, meanwhile, sits in eighth place. United, it has to be said, *sucks*.

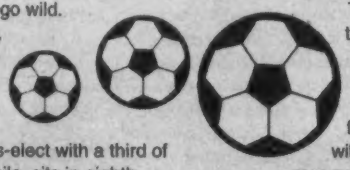
Sound familiar?

Chelsea is the Boston Red Sox of English football: a team of unflagging underachievers. Manchester United, meanwhile, is our New York Yankees. They win, we don't; so it is, so it was, so it will be.

It seemed grimly fitting, then, when United and the Yankees recently announced a multimillion-dollar marketing contract, a mini-merger that will enable the two clubs to flog each other's merchandise, share TV revenues, and irritate the crap out of the rest of us with talk of "consolidation" and "branding" and "outreach."

A February 12 article in *Slate* magazine called these clubs "the Tokyo and Berlin of the sports world" who had forged an "evil axis." This might sound like hyperbole, but it isn't. Take the clubs' top brass: Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, known as the most hated man in baseball, who once called one of his own players "a fat pussy toad"; and United chairman Martin Edwards, an insufferable sleazeball who, the London tabloids say, has a thing for Brazilian prostitutes.

But never mind all this. The real reason to hate these clubs is that they are sucking the lifeblood out of sports. With the United-Yankees merger, football — okay, soccer — and baseball became honest-to-goodness global products. Even before the deal, you were as likely to see an ass-backwards Yankees cap in Moscow as you were in New York; you were as likely to be burped upon by a member of the Man U fan club in Kuala Lumpur as you were in Manchester. This deal simply seals the teams' status as brand names.



The Yankees and United have other things in common: they *suck*, of course, and they are both incredibly *rich* (worth $600 million and $900 million, respectively). Both teams have massive fan bases, arrogant and tasteless people willing — no, eager — to shell out big money to don the latest ticky-tacky team jerseys. And both teams illustrate a modern adage: in today's sports, cash spells success. The Yankees have won four of the last five World Series. United has won six of the last eight league titles. And now that they are pooling their fat-cat resources, what hopes are there for second-fiddle clubs like the Red Sox and Chelsea?

Maybe that's it. Maybe those of us who hate Man U and the Yanks are just jealous. Or maybe we are afraid. Or maybe we are just annoyed. At one point, near the end of last week's United-Chelsea game, the red-clad posse at the front of the bar started singing Mancunian ditties. Shortly after this, they snickered at Chelsea's attendance (around 35,000, roughly half the attendance at United's home games). This kind of smarmy hubris I can take. But not brand-imaging. Not global marketing. Please. Anything but that.

— Chris Wright

WALK OF LIFE

Going the distance

Most of us would walk miles — or at least 10 kilometers — to raise awareness of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. But we probably couldn't match the stamina of AIDS educator John Chittick. The founder of Boston's TeenAIDS-PeerCorps — an organization devoted to stopping the spread of HIV among youth worldwide — Chittick hiked 2200 miles across six continents and 40 countries (including Brazil, Uganda, and Australia) to tell teens about what he calls the "third wave" of AIDS: a massive outbreak hitting millions of young people around the globe. Today, in fact, the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS reports that half of all new HIV cases globally occur in youth ages 15 to 24. In the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 25 percent of new HIV cases strike 13-to-19-year-olds. The *Phoenix* caught up with Chittick — known as "Dr. John" to kids — at his Fitchburg home, where he is resting his feet after ending his two-year trek last month.

Q: *You were one of the first to predict the teen AIDS epidemic back in 1994. What were the signs of such a trend back then?*

A: There is little epidemiological evidence of young people with HIV/AIDS because they rarely get tested. But we know that STD [sexually transmitted disease] rates among youth are high, and that they have sex — usually with more than one partner. I understood it was only a matter of time before HIV/AIDS would reach the teen population. When it did, it would spread fast because teens are having sex often with each other.

Q: *What has happened since?*

A: Five years ago in Africa, we started seeing HIV move into the teenage population. Today, one in three teenagers in South Africa has HIV, according to the International AIDS Conference. South Africa has the highest incidence of AIDS among youth in sub-Saharan Africa.... But this [number] will grow larger and larger — unless young people stop having sex or all use condoms.

Q: *You went on a two-year trek around 40 countries — alone. Why?*

A: I'd gone to conferences and talked with doctors, but nobody was getting the message out to teenagers. I decided that I have the expertise, the ability, and the burning desire to get information to young people. I would at least train them in AIDS prevention. The whole idea for a global trip came to me about two years ago. My mentor, [Harvard University professor] Jonathan Mann, was going to Switzerland when his plane went down. I heard this and thought: life is so short. You never know when you'll die. I knew I had to do something dramatic. So I thought I'd do a walk. I've had a triple bypass and diabetes. I'm not the healthiest guy in the world.

Q: *You went from India to South Africa to Cuba to Serbia. Was there any unifying link among the young people of these countries?*

A: Adolescence is the one time when everyone shares the same emotional, psychological, and physical developments. Young people are breaking away from their families and trying to find their identities. They're looking for friends and lovers. There is also a globalization factor. Everywhere you go, kids watch MTV. They go to Hollywood movies. To them, the movies are America. So America is often about sex, and no consequences. This is modern living to them. They all want to be Americans.

Q: *How exactly did you reach out to them?*

A: I'd introduce myself and ask young people about themselves — it breaks the ice. Then I'd say, "Look, if you want to go to school or have a family, you cannot get HIV." I'd ask them to help me spread the word. Very rarely did I get turned down. Kids are altruistic. If you say to them, "Don't have sex," they say, "Yeah, right." But if you ask young people to help, they respond.

"DR. JOHN" *spreads the word about AIDS.*

Q: *In your travels, you've been jailed, harassed, and intimidated — what sticks out most?*

A: Colombia was the scariest country. I'm normally not afraid to travel, but I had the worst feeling there. Guns were everywhere. Our car would be stopped by police, and then by the narco squads. The kids [who volunteered] were frightened. I didn't know there could be so much lawlessness. Colombia was the only place in the world where young people refused to take me into their neighborhoods out of fear for what could happen to me. It's a very different place today. It's going down the tubes fast.

Q: *What could American teens learn from those you met on your walks?*

A: That the teen AIDS epidemic has emerged, and is spreading. Just look at the amount of young people who come here and travel abroad. In my upcoming book [about the walk], I talk about how certain cities will become meccas for migratory AIDS among young people — Boston is one of them. More than 100,000 youth come to this city every year. They have sex partners, and often one-night stands. Many don't use condoms because they don't see their peers getting sick. Amsterdam, Bangkok, Hong Kong are other places where tremendous amounts of young people travel in and out.

Q: *Would you say that it's possible to curb teen AIDS?*

A: I would have been more pessimistic a few years ago. On this trip, I saw kids willing to help. That will never stop teen AIDS. But it can stop the further spread. We can pass the AIDS-prevention message the same way that HIV is transmitted, from one friend to another friend to another.

Q: *So will there be another global walk for you?*

A: There will be regional walks instead. The next one will be in Central America and the Caribbean, where most migration of young people to the United States originates. In Haiti and the Dominican Republic, there are epidemics right now. I want to go and tell kids what's up.

For more information, videos, and articles on Chittick's global walk, check out the TeenAIDS-PeerCorps Web site at www.teenaids.org.

— Kristen Lombardi

RANT

Won't the real issues please stand up?

Enough already with the Elton John–Eminem Grammy-performance hysteria. Ever since the planned duet was made public February 9, national gay and lesbian advocacy groups have expressed outrage and dismay. Joan M. Garry, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Discrimination, issued a statement last weekend saying, "GLAAD is appalled that John would share a stage with Eminem, whose words and actions promote hate and violence against gays and lesbians."

Spare me the Chicken Little rhetoric. If GLAAD and the other groups crying about Eminem and the Grammys wanted to focus on something truly damaging to our community, they would set their sights on the religious right's attempts to establish a "defense of marriage" office in the White House — which, as we all know, is code for a "keep the queers from marrying" office.

ENOUGH ALREADY: *W.'s in the White House — we have other things to worry about than Eminem singing with Elton John.*

There's no question Eminem's lyrics are offensive. But the venom raining down on John for his decision to perform with Eminem at the Grammys February 21 is much more so. How can anyone question a public persona who's been out in one form or another since 1974? To be sure, homophobia is a recurrent theme in Eminem's lyrics. But I can't be the only listener of *The Marshall Mathers LP* who finds Eminem's obsession with gay sex so thorough that he comes across as some kind of closet case. In "Ken Kaniff," for example, he conjures up a scenario in which one man is getting sucked off by two others — both of whom are fantasizing about Eminem.

Eminem — whose personal woes have been detailed in the press almost as carefully as his homophobic lyrics — is a scrawny, pimply mess. But there's no denying that he's hugely talented. His ability to make words that share the same vowels sound as if they rhyme is pure genius. But, as countless others have pointed out, his obsessions with violence, misogyny, and homophobia diminish the overall effect. I bought his CD this summer after getting hooked on "The Real Slim Shady" and listened to it compulsively until I couldn't take the trashy lyrics anymore. But which is worse? Eminem's misguided — even wasted — talent? Or Bill Clinton's?

Let's keep something in mind: Eminem is just a rapper. It's not as if he were a politician who's worked to pass anti-gay laws. It's not as if he were a criminal who beat a gay college student, tied him to a fence, and left him to die. And it's not as if his songs will make anyone do any of the above. If music had that kind of an impact on its listeners, we'd all still have '80s hair.

What we really need here is a good dose of perspective. Here's a list (well, a partial list — we don't have the space for a complete one) of those who get dissed on *The Marshall Mathers LP*, which has been nominated for four Grammys: record promoters (in "Steve Berman"); people who get offended by obscenities — "You want me to clean my lyrics up while the president gets his dick sucked?" — as well as parents who bring their young children to violent movies and let their "12-year-old girls" wear makeup (in "Who Knew"); "cocky Caucasians" (in "The Way I Am"); Christina Aguilera and Britney Spears (in "The Real Slim Shady"); his mother (in "Remember Me"); Christopher Reeves, 'N Sync, Jennifer Lopez, and Puff Daddy (in "I'm Back"); New Kids on the Block, groupies, distant relatives "who never bothered to call me until they saw me on TV," and his in-laws (in "Marshall Mathers"); people who live in Detroit (in "Amityville"); Christian fundamentalists (in "Criminal"); and last, but not least, the fools who take song lyrics literally (in "Stan").

That last one happens to be the tune Elton John and Eminem will perform together during the Grammys.

Ironic, isn't it?

— Susan Ryan-Vollmar

MEDIA

NewYorker.com's low-key debut

You've got to love the timing of the debut of NewYorker.com, the *New Yorker*'s exceedingly modest new Web site. Here we are, some half-dozen years into the online revolution. Dot-coms are crashing all around, with the NASDAQ reduced to about half its level of a year ago. Net-based business plans are going up in flames. Webzines such as *Salon* and *Feed* are running on fumes. So what better day to unveil a Web content venture than February 12, 2001?

The *New Yorker*'s road to the Web has been rocky and long. Just a few weeks ago the *New York Post*'s Keith Kelly reported that editor David Remnick had to appeal personally to Condé Nast chairman S.I. Newhouse Jr. not to delay the Web site yet again, as company CEO Steve Florio had wanted to do. Well, now it's here — and, at least in its initial incarnation, it's about as innovative as yet another cover drawing of Eustace Tilley.

Let's stipulate that, as magazine Web sites go, NewYorker.com is fine in a low-key, *New Yorker*–ish sort of way. It includes listings, "The Talk of the Town," the humor column "Shouts & Murmurs," Nicholas Lemann's "Letter from Washington," a short story by Alice Munro, and the back-of-the-book criticism. It excludes everything else — and the new issue being a double anniversary edition (with, yes, Eustace Tilley on the cover), that's quite a bit, including a reminiscence by Gabriel García Márquez, a "U.S. Journal" by Mark Singer, and a piece by Adam Gopnick on schooling for hoodlums who are serving sentences at Rikers Island.

Unfortunately, what makes the *New Yorker* great simply doesn't translate all that well into bits and bytes. The typeface is tiny to the point of being unreadable. Rather than paging through the cartoons — which is what makes the print magazine such a wonderful bathroom companion — the NewYorker.com reader gets sent to the affiliated Cartoon Bank, where you can watch cartoons randomly displayed on your screen. Eh. Worse, NewYorker.com intends to emulate magazines such as the *Atlantic Monthly*, the *New Republic*, and *Newsweek*, all of which load up their sites with content — some of it quite good — that you can't get in the print version. Why subscribe to the magazine if you've still got to chain yourself to your computer?

One interesting feature is a direct link to a *New Yorker* section on Barnesandnoble.com. Among the offerings are three e-books of anthologies from the magazine, comprising new fiction, medicine, and business. (The $7.95 e-books, unfortunately, are available only in Microsoft Reader format.) According to an item in the current *Publishers Weekly*, more titles are expected to be rolled out soon.

Publishers Weekly contains some valuable misinformation as well. The URL that it lists for the *New Yorker*'s Web site is not www.newyorker.com, but rather www.newyorkermag.com, which turns out to be a pretty funny parody by *Modern Humorist*. My favorite: "ShoutsBot 1.0. Our proprietary software scans newspapers from two weeks ago and generates stilted but basically readable 700-word satires. It's the next best thing to Christopher Buckley!"

Bookmark both of them.

— Dan Kennedy

PHOENIX ILLUSTRATION BY MIKE MILARD

TALKING POLITICS

Coveting Southie's voters?

Woven into the *Boston Globe*'s comprehensive team coverage on Tuesday of US Representative Joe Moakley's announcement that cancer is forcing his retirement seemed to be a fascinating nugget: Representative Michael Capuano wants South Boston.

A piece headlined QUESTION OF SUCCESSOR EMERGES notes that Capuano, who represents the Eighth Congressional District, "has made no secret of his desire" to see his district encompass more of Boston. The following sentence continues: "By 2002, some sources close to the discussion speculated yesterday, the [Ninth Congressional] district may not even encompass South Boston, which has controlled the seat for years."

"I'm not looking for South Boston," says Capuano, who notes that he already represents most of the South End and parts of Jamaica Plain. "I'm not looking not to have it, either. If it's given to me, I think I can represent it very well. I think it would be good to keep all districts as homogeneous as possible."

In many ways, it would make cultural sense for Capuano to want to exchange the "wine and cheese" elements of his district — Brattle Street and Belmont — for South Boston. As mayor of all-American Somerville, he thrived on a blue-collar base; he could use more lunch-pail voters to offset a challenge from the left.

"South Boston is much more in keeping with parts of Somerville and East Cambridge than some of the more progressive parts of Capuano's district," says Mary Anne Marsh, a Democratic strategist. "Capuano is naturally much more appealing to Reagan Democrats than he is to Clinton Democrats."

Yet Capuano takes issue with this analysis. "I get along very well with the people of Brattle Street," he says, adding that too much is made of the image of him alienating lefties. "I'm about as left as anyone in the House. Somebody at the extreme left of my district wouldn't get a lot done down here."

Whether he wants Southie or not, though the question of what will happen to the Ninth Congressional District probably won't hinge on what Capuano wants. What Moakley wants is more important.

— Seth Gitell

GOOD FOR US

Another win-win situation

It was a long night at the Park Plaza on February 10. The annual New England Press Association (NEPA) Better Newspaper Awards banquet may have set a record for the number of prizes handed out, but in the end that was fine with the Phoenix Newspaper Group. We're proud to announce that the *Boston Phoenix* walked home in the bitter cold with the **George A. Speers Newspaper of the Year** plaque (our fourth within memory, previous big scores having come our way in 1994, '97, and '99). The ***Boston Phoenix* Arts section** distinguished itself with a third-place trophy, and we even placed second for **Headline Writing** (judges' comment: "Very intriguing headlines").

On the individual-achievement front, the *Phoenix* organization managed to sweep three categories in its class. *Boston Phoenix* reporter **Jason Gay** took first place in the General News Story category for his December 10, 1999, report from inside the WTO protests, "Seattle Was a Riot." He was followed in second place by *Providence Phoenix* freelancer **Steve Stycos** for his July 7, 2000, feature on sick buildings, "Air of Indifference," and by *Worcester Phoenix* news writer **Chris Kanaracus**, who placed third for his May 12, 2000, profile of expunged Democratic state rep Bill McManus, intriguingly headlined "Not as Dumb as They Hoped."

We did even better in the Social Issues Feature category, taking four top spots: *Boston Phoenix* media reporter/senior writer **Dan Kennedy** landed in first place for his June 23, 2000, cultural commentary "Why We Love To Hate Microsoft"; *Providence Phoenix* news editor **Ian Donnis** scored second for "Down by Law," his October 14, 1999, report on wrongful convictions; *Providence Phoenix* reporter **Justin Wolff** came in third for "Casino Games," his January 20, 2000, look at a Narragansett Indian casino proposal; and *Boston Phoenix* freelance contributor **Lisa Birk** received honorable mention for "The Gang Star," her July 7, 2000, profile of a reformed Cambodian gangster who helps kids in Revere leave gang life.

The *Boston Phoenix* stable of freelance photographers grabbed all four top honors for Personality Photo. **Kathleen Dooher** took first for her November 5, 1999, portrait of the crew at Zeitgeist Gallery; **Mark Ostow** came in second for his October 15, 1999, portrait of Cambridge pol Ken Reeves; third place went to **Geoffrey Kula** for his November 5, 1999, "Best" pic of Jack's Joke Shop; and **Dana Smith** grabbed the Honorable Mention slot for his September 3, 1999, portrait of Norman Mailer.

Score three for the *Boston Phoenix* in the Human Interest Story category. Features writer **Chris Wright** was rewarded with first place for his time spent undercover in the Billerica House of Correction ("My Time in Jail," April 21, 2000); **Michelle Chihara** grabbed third for an account of her ride-along adventure with Boston's guerrilla hip-hop marketing crew ("Hype N the Hood," December 10, 1999); and freelancer **Steve Almond** received honorable mention for his profile of New England's shrinking local candy industry ("The Kings of Candy," March 17, 2000).

In addition to his Social Issues trophy, Dan Kennedy took first place in the Religious Reporting category for his sweeping *Boston Phoenix* overview of Bush, Gore, American culture, and God ("Let Us Prey," March 24, 2000) and received honorable mention for his *Boston Phoenix* coverage of *A Civil Action* lawyer Jan Schlichtmann, activist Erin Brockovich, and the flap surrounding a controversial Salem power plant ("Screen Greens," May 12, 2000). Kristen Lombardi also took home a first-place Religious/Ethnic Reporting plaque for her *Boston Phoenix* feature on racial profiling ("Drive-By Racism," May 18, 2000) and came in third for her *Worcester Phoenix* coverage of the firing of UMass Memorial surgeon William Meyers for speaking out against managed care ("Muzzled," January 28, 2000). Third place in that category was captured by Michelle Chihara for her overview of Boston's Brazilian community ("The Rio World," October 29, 1999).

Continuing our parade of firsts, freelancer **Eliza Wilmerding** topped the Sports Story category for her *Boston Phoenix* profile of a female boxer ("The Nurse That Hurts," June 16, 2000), and Ian Donnis snagged a first for Business and Economic Reporting with his *Providence Phoenix* appraisal of the downtown Providence Place Mall ("Sudden Impact," August 19, 1999).

Boston Phoenix freelance illustrator **Kevin Banks** received honorable mention in the Illustration category for his December 31, 1999, rendering of musician Joe Strummer.

"Cellars by Starlight" columnist **Brett Milano** held up the *Boston Phoenix* Arts section's end with a third-place award for his piece on the break-up of local rockers Letters to Cleo ("No More Letters," June 30, 2000).

And certainly not least, *Boston Phoenix* reporter **Laura A. Siegel** was handed honorable mention for her report on proposed uses of real estate on top of the depressed Central Artery ("The Final Frontier," April 28, 2000).

Congratulations to all our winners — and to the relatively unsung folk who supported their efforts. Good work, everyone.

— Clif Garboden
Senior Managing Editor

jazz is dead
acoustic exploration into grateful dead's "workingman's dead" and american beauty"
with
jeff pevar (phil lesh & friends, david crosby/cpr), alphonso johnson (the other ones, santana, weather report), t lavitz (widespread panic, dixie dregs), rod morgenstein (6 grammy nominations, dixie dregs)
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flashbacks Phoenix

IGLESIAS: *even in his absence, an inviting target.*

The Boston Phoenix *has been covering the trends and events that shape our times since 1966. The following selections, culled from our back files, were compiled by Nina Willdorf.*

Corny come-ons

5 ***years ago:***
February 16, 1996

Sleuth reporter Geoff Edgers dug in his heels, threw back a few drinks, and put on his beer goggles to take a closer look at desperate men trying to pick up uninterested ladies.

"A full decade after the much-vaunted rise of the sensitive guy, the hunt is alive and well. Its participants — predators and targets — still fill Boston's clubs, from the townie taverns to the no-sneakers-allowed hangouts of the so-called beautiful people.

"It can feel like a time trip, a step back to the good old days when women were called girls, safe sex meant Daddy never found out, and drunk, pushy men got slapped, not sued, for doing their thing. Booze breeds confidence, just as it always did, and corny come-ons flow faster than the Red Dog."

Renters' market

10 ***years ago:***
February 15, 1991

It may be hard to believe these days, but at one point Boston's real-estate market was ripe for the renters' picking. Timothy Gower took a peek at the prime properties.

"With supply far ahead of demand in many communities, some renters have decided to ditch their tiny, cramped flats and move into more spacious digs. Others, who have long considered a downtown apartment to be out of their financial grasp, are finding that the price pendulum is slowly swinging back in their favor. In short, a lot of people are trading up and moving out.

"To put the local rental market into perspective, consider this: during the booming, prosperous mid 1980s, Boston was plagued by what industry officials called 'a rental-housing emergency.' The vacancy rate in 1987 was microscopic — just 2.26 percent, according to a survey by the Rental Housing Association (RHA), a division of the Greater Boston Real Estate Board. But a more recent RHA survey showed that, as of last October, the vacancy rate in Boston had ballooned to 8.8 percent, a level termed 'very high' by Ann Rendle of the real-estate board."

Using Julio

15 ***years ago:***
February 18, 1986

The mention of Julio is usually good for a laugh, or at least a sneer. Perhaps that's why comedians Linda Wallem and Peter Tolan included his name in the title of their comedy routine *Wallem and Tolan: An Evening Without Julio Iglesias*, which Scott Rosenberg found lived up to its claims.

"As promised, Julio Iglesias is nowhere in evidence at the unpretentious, often imaginative, and adroitly performed comedy show that Linda Wallem and Peter Tolan have brought with them from Minneapolis. The singer isn't even parodied, in fact; but the spirit of the kind of manufactured entertainment he represents hovers over the evening nonetheless — as an inviting target for the team's sharp shots."

Sweaty scenes

20 ***years ago:***
February 17, 1981

According to Anita Diamant, the eyeing and one-upping found in gym locker rooms is certainly not the sole province of men.

"There are two general types of locker-room habitué — the Meditator and the Schmoozer. Both come to get in shape in the pool, on the Universal machine, or by taking exercise and yoga classes, and to relax. Still, they inevitably get in each other's way. The Meditator seeks sanctuary along with her 25 laps. The Schmoozer wants to 'share' the experience.

"Locker rooms are anthropological gold mines. Dress-for-success-type feminists claim a major disadvantage for women in their exclusion from the male ritual, which is just as silly as ours....

"The women's locker room is the ground for the cleansing ritual, the health ritual, the beauty ritual, and all their attendant power objects — totems given a wide berth and approached only with deliberation and caution. The dangerous and the desired. The sacred and the profane. The mirror and the scale."

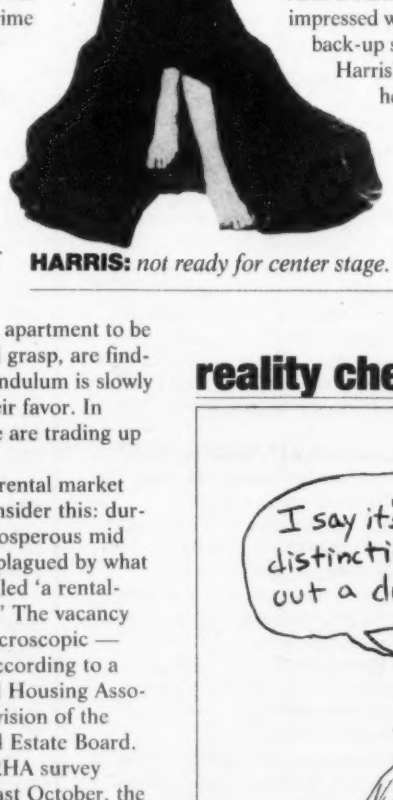
Hanging Harris

25 ***years ago:***
February 17, 1976

Ariel Swartley wasn't all that impressed with former back-up singer Emmylou Harris's *Elite Hotel*, her first attempt at solo action.

"Most women who have made the transition from back-up singer to front and center have disappointed me. Emmylou Harris is no exception. I'm surprised, because as a supporting vocalist (most recently with Dylan) she comes across as something more than the anonymous, adaptable studio singer. Her harmonies add another character to the songs — a female sensibility that seems both vulnerable and competent in spite of it all. The catch in her voice, the twang and the childlike whisper, are effective parts of her personable country style. It's terrific frosting on the right kind of cake.

"Unfortunately, Emmylou Harris is the main action in *Elite Hotel*, and those affecting and personable qualities haven't survived the shift from harmony to lead."



HARRIS: *not ready for center stage.*

BAKER: *no hamming.*

Singing praises

30 ***years ago:***
February 16, 1971

Calling a singer "musical" is the complimentary equivalent of calling someone "nice," according to Richard Buell. Nevertheless, "musical" was the most apt word for the exceptionally talented English mezzo Janet Baker.

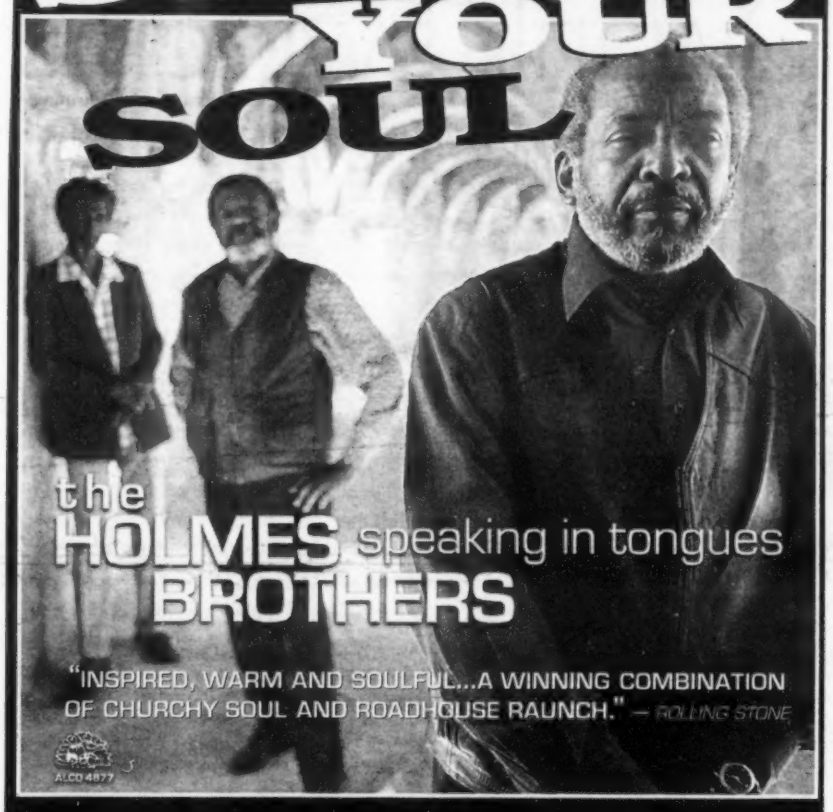
"In [Baker]'s recital in the Peabody-Mason Music Foundation series, accompanied by Martin Isepp, she showed that she is making optimum use of a rather considerable voice, intelligently and flexibly, in a wide range of interesting music. There is no cheap concert-platform 'appealing' quality, no hamming, no condescension. Her singing is often simply very beautiful."

Where are they now?

Geoff Edgers is a staff writer at the *Raleigh News & Observer*. Timothy Gower is a freelance writer based on Cape Cod. Scott Rosenberg is the movie critic and digital-culture columnist for *Salon*. Anita Diamant is the author of *The Red Tent* (Picador). Ariel Swartley writes on education, culture, and food for *LA Weekly* and the *New York Times*.

reality check by David Sipress

STIR YOUR SOUL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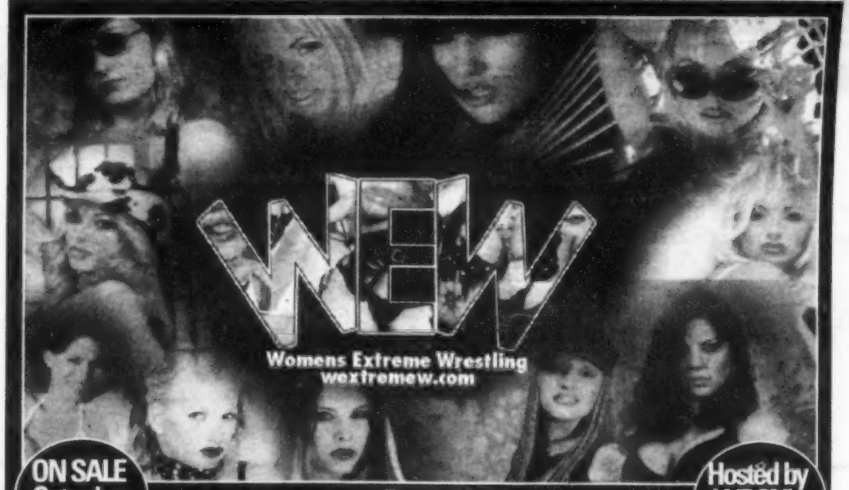

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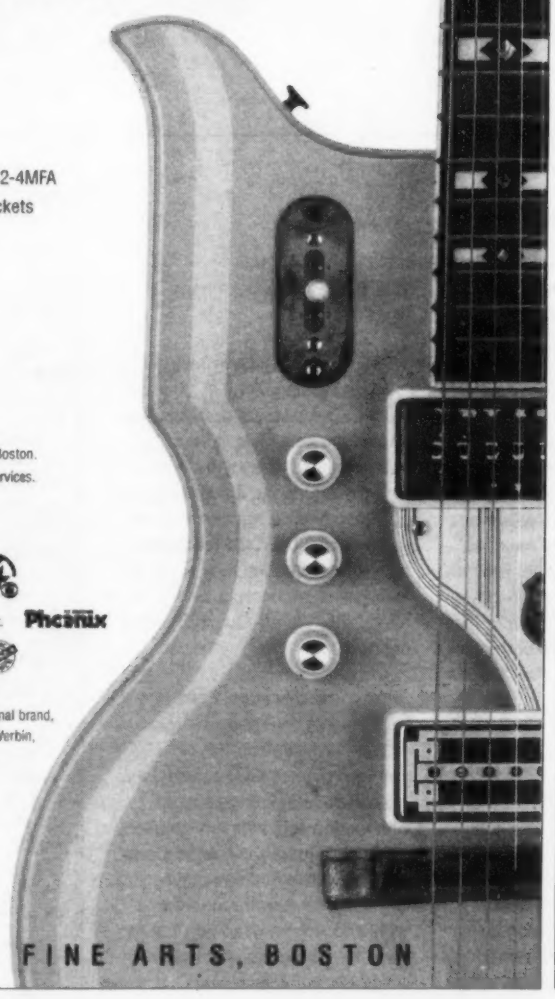

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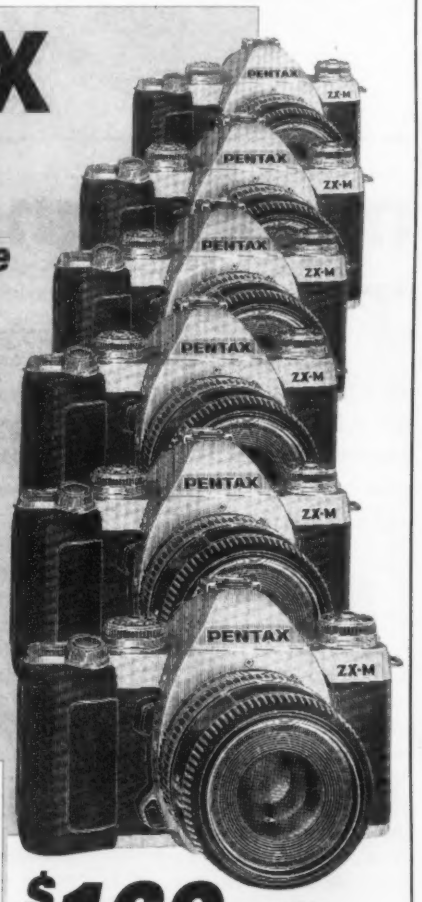

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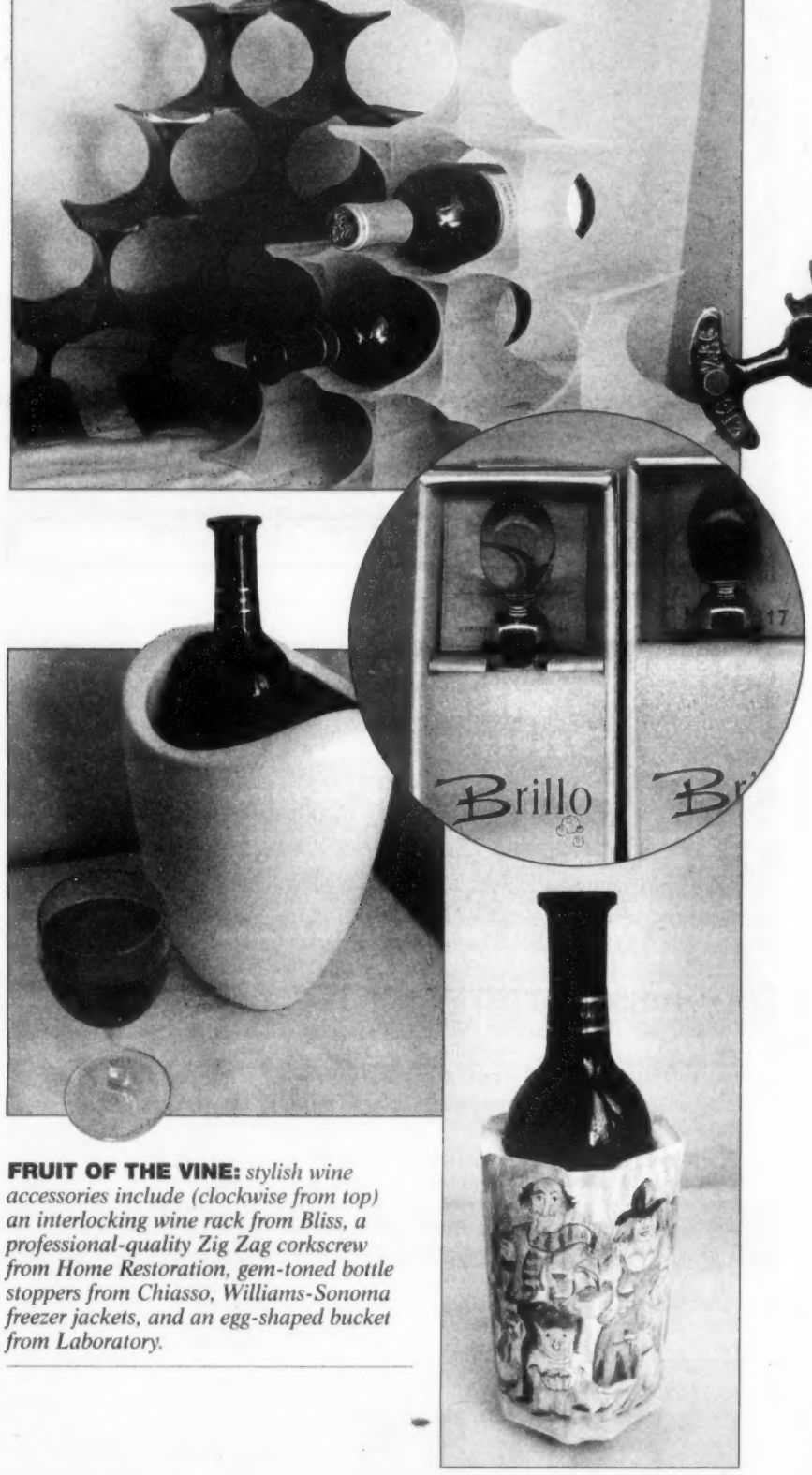


FRUIT OF THE VINE: *stylish wine accessories include (clockwise from top) an interlocking wine rack from Bliss, a professional-quality Zig Zag corkscrew from Home Restoration, gem-toned bottle stoppers from Chiasso, Williams-Sonoma freezer jackets, and an egg-shaped bucket from Laboratory.*

PHOTOS BY TED BAIRD

Swank swigging

Drink wine like an adult

ONCE UPON AN indulgent time, you thought about vino like a wino. Thunderbird, Night Train — fortified, Drano-like drinks in screw-top bottles, unmatched in their ability to numb, procured with a handful of change. Then, in the '80s, you were awash in kiddie-colored concoctions: tropical breezers, spritzers, and other fanciful air-headed carbonations. They went down like soda pop; the next day, your head felt as if it were hosting a glockenspiel jamboree. But now you're ready to drink wine the way adults do: thoughtfully, patiently, and in a glass! And that means you'll need some essential accouterments.

For those who aspire to bibulous sophistication, wine racks are de rigueur, and your stolen milk crate from Dunkin' Donuts does not count. Bliss in Cambridge offers groovy Lego-like structures, designed by Ron Arad for Infinity ($105). These brightly colored, interlocking pieces create a delightful weird-science bottle holder that can be added on to. For those serious about stocking their cellars, Hold Everything imports simple, sturdy, smooth-sanded rack systems from Sweden ($119 for a six-shelf unit or $219 for a 14-shelf unit).

Where to get it:

- Back Bay Wine & Spirits, 704 Boylston Street, Boston (617) 262-6571
- Best Cellars, 1327 Beacon Street, Brookline, (617) 232-4100
- Bliss, 2257 Mass Ave, Cambridge, (617) 497-4499
- Chiasso, 800 Boylston Street, Boston, (617) 859-1808
- Hold Everything, 351 Newbury Street, Boston, (617) 450-9846; 1000 Mass Ave, Cambridge, (617) 354-9771
- Laboratory, 577 Tremont Street, Boston, (617) 266-7300
- Williams-Sonoma, 100 Huntington Avenue, Boston, (617) 262-3080; other locations listed at www.williams-sonoma.com

Once you select a bottle from your new rack, you have to open it with panache. To put an end to digging with a butter knife or contemplating bashing the bottle neck, head to Home Restoration for a Zig Zag corkscrew ($14); it boasts fine workmanship and sturdy materials, so you can pop even the most cantankerous corks with grace.

Of course, now that you have to get up for work in the morning, you may not be able to finish the whole bottle. But did you ever try to fit the cork back in? Chiasso, purveyor of super-hip home accessories, puts a temp lid on the grape juice with gleaming, Brillo-designed silver-toned stoppers topped with gem-like finials ($28). Then, to display your elegantly topped bottles, stop at the South End's Laboratory for a smooth, egg-like wine bucket made by the artful folks at Umbra. Or, for a Deco look, try Zinc's French bistro-style bucket ($49), which features a matte-metal finish with elegant banding and divinely curved handles. No room for a bucket in your picnic basket? Williams-Sonoma and artist Guy Buffet can wrap up your vino and keep it cool with freezer jackets decorated with whimsical figures ($14 for a set of two).

So now you can store, open, and serve, but *what*? Before you get lost at the liquor store, let two local experts help you choose your first bottles. In the $20-to-$50 range, Robert Shire of Back Bay Wine & Spirits recommends a Côtes-du-Rhône or a St. Supéry California chardonnay; Michael Kudisch of Best Cellars suggests a Chateau Ste. Michelle merlot or a crisp cabernet from the Beaulieau vineyard. That's all you need to know to start imbibing in style.

— Suzanne Kammlott

moon signs

BY SYMBOLINE DAI

THE MOON CONTINUES to wane this week. Though the new moon won't arrive until February 23, use this time to disperse, rather than acquire. (It's an excellent time for bargain hunting, though I'd still recommend waiting on electronic purchases, thanks to Mercury retrograde.) If you're hoping to quit a bad habit, all the planets are in place for that, but the best time will be when the moon is in Capricorn on Sunday (coincidentally, when the hangover nausea is still fresh!).

Thursday, February 15
Waning moon in Sagittarius, last quarter. Appetites abound, so boycott the stores that are still charging full price for cello-wrapped chockies and drooping roses. Sagittarius, your aim is true—just make sure those arrows are yours. Aries, what sounds like "fun" now could have some oppressive personalities this weekend. Gemini, no exotic restaurants this weekend.

Friday, February 16
Waning moon in Sagittarius. Casual-sex Friday? Only for the chatty and variable among us. Sagittarius, don't overexplain, but you can make a joke. Leo, dignity with urgency will make that message more palatable. Virgo, take the work home — you'll be sharper this weekend.

Saturday, February 17
Waning moon in Sagittarius/Capricorn. An afternoon void-of-course means that you should use judgment when purchasing exercise equipment or upgrades of any variety during those hours. Sagittarius won't mind getting lost, while Capricorn just needs a system — not more feedback. Taurus may be blunt, but accurate. VOC 2 to 4 p.m.

Sunday, February 18
Waning moon in Capricorn. A great day for cooking (but not experimenting). Capricorn, other people talk, you plan — that's how you can handle "the future." Libra, on the other hand, *should* wing it, but not until Tuesday. Cancer will be torn between gushing and gnashing. Taurus, your instincts for vox populi are correct, and those of you born after May 14 will insist others listen.

Monday, February 19
Waning moon in Capricorn, sun moves into Pisces. The buck stops … there. No wait, over there. Stinginess rules, and compliments may be barbed. Capricorn keeps on keeping on, while Virgo and Pisces say "I told you so," even if they didn't. Aries: wait until tomorrow or Wednesday to grab opportunities. VOC 6 p.m. to 5 a.m.: the movie won't start on time.

Tuesday, February 20
Waning moon in Aquarius. If you've got an easily distracted problem child in your charge, get out the toy box today. January Aquarians are craving travel, if they haven't had some in the past two months. Ditto for September Libras, although they want the luxury version. Scorpio, on the other hand, needs to sit. Quietly. Plotting payback.

Wednesday, February 21
Waning moon in Aquarius. When we're this close to the new moon, it's easy to stop trying quite as hard. Bleating and whimpering serve for conversation, although Aquarius is bubbling over with "simplification" strategies. Gemini, from now through the weekend, you've gotta rein in that need for immediate reassurance, especially you May twins.

Key to Moon Signs

This horoscope traces the passage of the moon, not the sun. Simply read from day to day to watch the moon's influence as it moves through the signs of the zodiac.

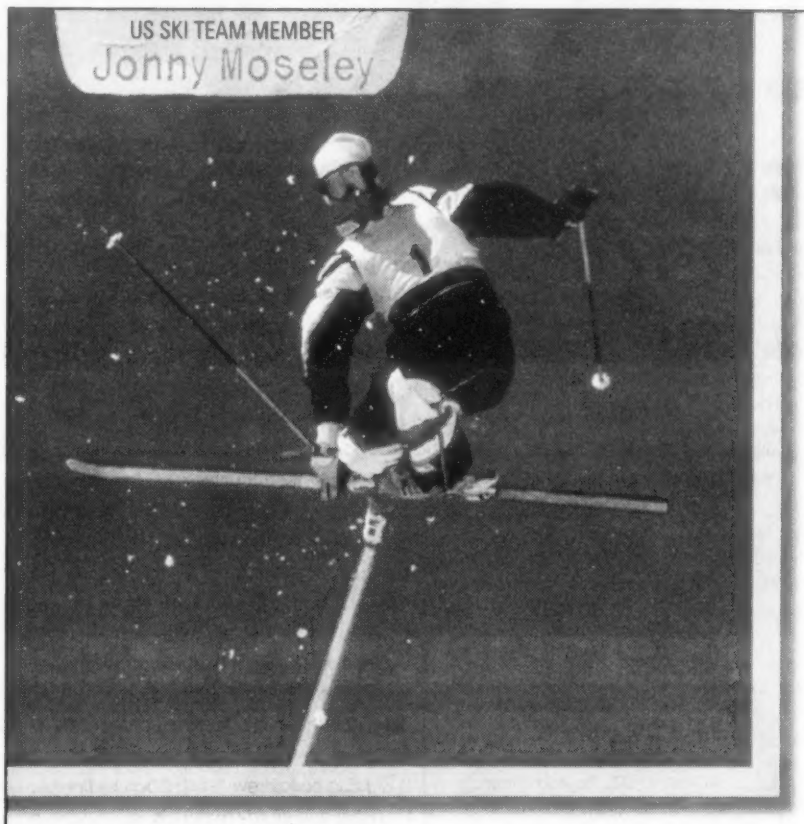
When the moon is in your sun sign, you are beginning a new 28-day emotional cycle, and you can expect increased insight and emotionality. When the moon moves into the sun sign opposite yours (see below), expect to have difficulties dealing with the opposite sex, family, or authority figures; social or romantic activities will not be at their best.

When the moon is in Aries, it opposes Libra, and vice versa. Other oppositions are Taurus/Scorpio, Gemini/Sagittarius, Cancer/Capricorn, Leo/Aquarius, and Virgo/Pisces. The moon stays in each sign approximately two and a half days.

As the moon moves between signs, it will sometimes become "void of course," making no major angles to planets. Consider this a null time and try to avoid making or implementing decisions if you can.

For Symboline Dai's sun-sign horoscopes and advice column, visit our Web site at www.bostonphoenix.com.

Symboline Dai can be reached at symboline@aol.com.



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OUT THERE

Observing the natives in their natural habitat

Into the wild

BY KRIS FRIESWICK

FIELD NOTES. DATE: 1/20/01. Place: Vox Populi, a tribal gathering place of young native males and females. Observation time: 11 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Preparation notes: in an attempt to blend in with the natives, I adopt tribal dress — a midriff-baring tank top, plaid hip-huggers, Steve Madden shoes. I feel ridiculous, but it appears that I have slipped into this gathering place without arousing undue alarm. My subjects seem to have accepted me as one of their own.

11:02 p.m. — I have situated myself near a pack of five young males. They are laughing loudly and drinking their customary frosty tribal beverage. Five females, all in prime reproductive years, enter and take up position approximately 10 feet away from the males. They also request tribal beverages. The males feign disinterest and jostle one another, mimicking the competitive behaviors of more mature males. What a thrill to be close to these magnificent, untamed creatures in their natural habitat. Yet I sense a certain tension among the males. Each seems to be glancing furtively in the females' direction.

11:10 p.m. — The males and females have failed to make any verbal contact, but they are clearly aware of each other's presence. The large, tattooed, balding male specimen whom I have nicknamed "Tiny" seems to be especially averse to the presence of the females. Perhaps he feels threatened because of his lack of success in mating during my past observations. These tribal gatherings always seem to end with Tiny returning to his hut alone, while the other males leave to establish short-lived pair bonds with willing females.

11:20 p.m. — The females begin the courtship dance. What a remarkable display! Textbooks and lab study never really prepare you for witnessing these behaviors in the wild. They are so authentic, and yet so predictable. And they have predictable results. One of the females executes a simple "hair-behind-ear tuck," which past observations have indicated is more functional than sexual. Yet as soon as she touches her hair, the males perk up and take more direct notice. Then, another of the females executes a classic "head toss," which elicits an immediate and measurable reaction from the males. Their jostling immediately ceases, and all eyes are riveted on the females.

Curiously, none of the males has yet approached the obviously receptive females. I have yet to create a viable hypothesis as to why the stronger, more aggressive males harbor such fear of the typically weaker female gender. Perhaps it relates to the maternal relationship formed by these males during their infant and childhood years, a relationship that holds such power over them that they are never truly able to establish firm self-identities outside the overwhelming security of the maternal influence. Or maybe they are already pair-bonded to females who are not at the tribal gathering — but past observations have indicated that the pair-bonded condition is but a minor obstacle to the male's pursuit of any attractive, willing tribal female of reproductive age.

11:30 p.m. — What an exciting exhibition of traditional tribal mating customs! Within 10 minutes, the females have utilized the hair tussle and the two-handed hair push-back; one has repeatedly engaged in the rarely used hair twirl; and two have used the hand-on-hip thrust. The males are rendered nearly incapable of anything but staring blankly. One, who would be the alpha male if he weren't so short, appears ready to make a move toward the gathering of females.

11:35 p.m. — The alpha-male wanna-be, who I have named "Biff," has approached the females and procured for them a round of tribal beverages, "on his tab." This male counterpoint to the female hair toss is designed to demonstrate the male's superiority as a "hunter," and to showcase his ability to provide for the female and any potential offspring they may produce.

11:40 p.m. — Researchers of Arctic animals have long observed the curious habits of penguins, who gather at the edge of icebergs preparing to dive in to feed, but instead jostle one another until one is pushed into the water. If that penguin is not immediately eaten by a seagoing predator, all the penguins dive headlong into the sea. Much the same dynamic is at work tonight. No sooner has Biff procured the tribal beverages than the rest of the male natives in his band make a beeline for the females, and immediately engage them in chatting up, the precursor to "hooking up," which then leads to the aforementioned temporary pair-bonding. I watch, enraptured, as each male chooses a female and begins to talk, at length, about himself. This behavior is common and serves as a form of sexual advertising designed to demonstrate to the female his superiority over all other potential mates. Strangely, my research has shown that males at tribal gatherings rarely, if ever, ask the females any questions about themselves. This leads me to believe that the males of this tribe have evolved the ability to gather all the information they need by merely looking at the females. What a remarkable evolutionary adaptation!

DAVID SIPRESS

1:30 a.m. — Last call at the tribal gathering. All my subjects look as if they have had too much frosty tribal beverage. The males appear to have "hooked up," except of course for Tiny, who is sitting alone staring into the bottom of an empty glass. At about 12:30 a.m., one of the female band left in a slightly agitated state muttering something about "pathetic losers." I myself needed to ward off an unwanted advance from a tribal male from another pack who had obviously mistaken me for one of the natives. Without calling attention to myself, I flashed my left hand, where I wear a fake three-carat engagement ring, a highly effective deterrent recognized instantly by all male members of the tribe. Perhaps this time, in my enthusiasm for the chance to view this exceptional ritual, I got too close to my subjects. I must remember to keep my distance from these magnificent creatures, regardless of how fascinating I find them. My job, as always, is to observe, not to participate. ■

Kris Frieswick can be reached at krisf1@gte.net.

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THE STRAIGHT DOPE®

BY CECIL ADAMS

Cecil, just what the heck does the Latin phrase that starts lorem ipsum *mean? I have seen this used as "filler text" for years and have always wondered what it meant. Today I had finally had enough, so I cranked up my favorite search engine and fed it this phrase. You can imagine what I got back — thousands of Web pages in various stages of construction. And so I turn to you.*

Joe Nicholas
Via the Internet

This one is deep. Remember *etaoin shrdlu*? (Maybe you don't. Never mind, a bulletin on the subject is forthcoming.) Remember the Illuminati and *fnord*? *Lorem ipsum* is the same deal — one of those inscrutable phrases that just keep turning up. Surely it means something. Surely it's invested with, you know, mysto power. *Lorem ipsum*, my children. So mote it be.

Before we go any further I'd better explain what we're talking about. *Lorem ipsum* is the beginning of a pseudo-Latin passage commonly used as placeholder text when a graphic designer dummies up a page layout. It's intended to show how the type will look before the copy is available. I say pseudo-Latin because though the passage contains recognizable Latin words, they don't seem to add up to anything, and some are just jabberwocky — there's no Latin word *lorem*, for one thing. *Lorem ipsum* is only the beginning, by the way; the text continues *lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur, adipisci velit*, etc.

In the graphic-design business, nonsense filler like this is known, somewhat incongruously, as "greeking," presumably because "it's Greek to me." It was available for many years on adhesive sheets in different sizes and typefaces from a company called Letraset. In pre-desktop-publishing days, a designer would cut the stuff out with an X-Acto knife and stick it on the page. When computers came along, Aldus included *lorem ipsum* in its PageMaker publishing software, and you now see it wherever designers are at work, including all over the Web.

A few years ago someone wrote to *Before & After*, a desktop-publishing magazine (www.pagelab.com), asking what *lorem ipsum* meant. "It's not Latin, though it looks like it, and it actually says nothing," the editors replied. "Its 'words' loosely approximate the frequency with which letters occur in English, which is why at a glance it looks pretty real."

Not exactly. ("Lorem oopsum," the abashed *B&A* editors wrote.) Turns out the passage doesn't just look like real Latin, it is real (although slightly scrambled), and from a famous source. This news came from Richard McClintock, a Latin-professor-turned-publication-director at Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia. Curious about what the words meant, McClintock had looked up one of the more obscure ones, *consectetur*, in a Latin dictionary. Going through the cites of the word in classical literature, he found one that looked familiar. Aha! *Lorem ipsum* was part of a passage from Cicero, specifically *De finibus bonorum et malorum*, a treatise on the theory of ethics written in 45 BC. The original reads, *Neque porro quisquam est qui do lorem ipsum quia dolor sit amet, consectetur, adipisci velit* ... ("There is no one who loves pain itself, who seeks after it and wants to have it, simply because it is pain ...").

McClintock recalled having seen *lorem ipsum* in a book of early metal-type samples, which commonly used extracts from the classics. "What I find remarkable," he told *B&A*, "is that this text has been the industry's standard dummy text ever since some printer in the 1500s took a galley of type and scrambled it to make a type-specimen book; it has survived not only four centuries of letter-by-letter resetting but even the leap into electronic typesetting, essentially unchanged." So much for the transitory nature of content in the information age.

Just one problem. When I spoke to McClintock recently, he said he'd been unable to locate the old type sample in which he thought he'd seen *lorem ipsum*. The earliest he could definitely trace back the passage was Letraset press-type sheets, which dated back only a few decades. But come on, you think graphic-arts supply houses were hiring classics scholars in the 1960s? Well, maybe they were. But it's easier to believe that someone at Letraset simply copied the text from an old hot-type source. We're now faced with the mere technical detail of figuring out which one. ■

Comments, questions? Take it up with Cecil on the Straight Dope message board, www.straightdope.com, or write him at the Boston Phoenix, *126 Brookline Avenue, Boston, MA 02215. Cecil's latest compendium of knowledge,* Triumph of the Straight Dope, *is available at bookstores everywhere.*

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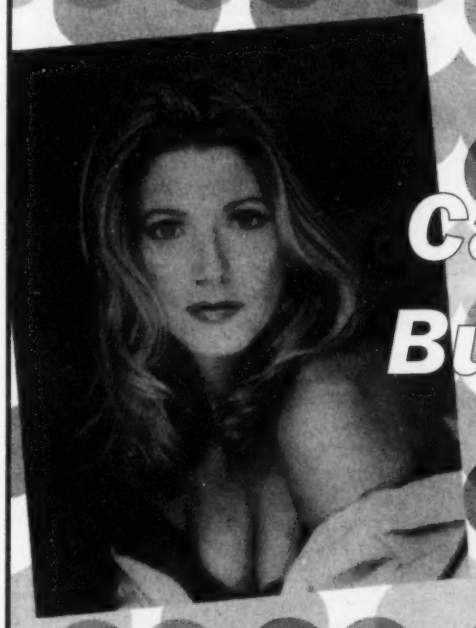

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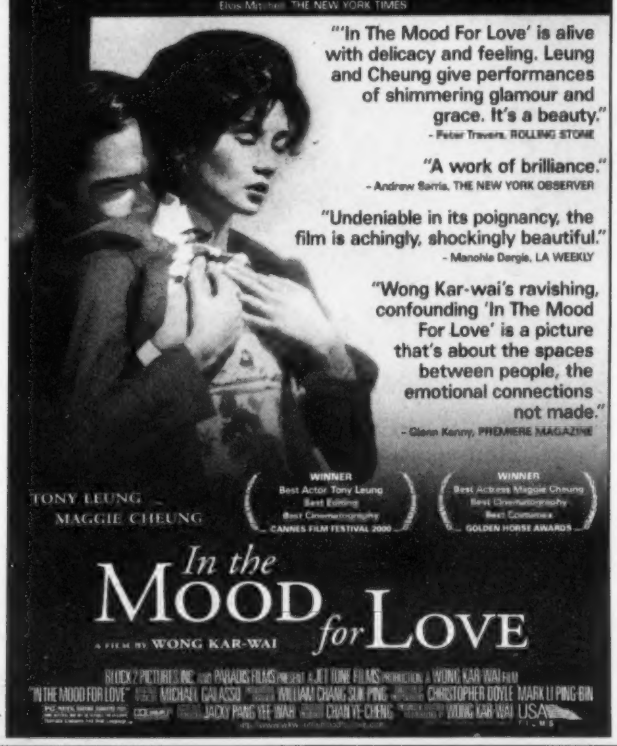

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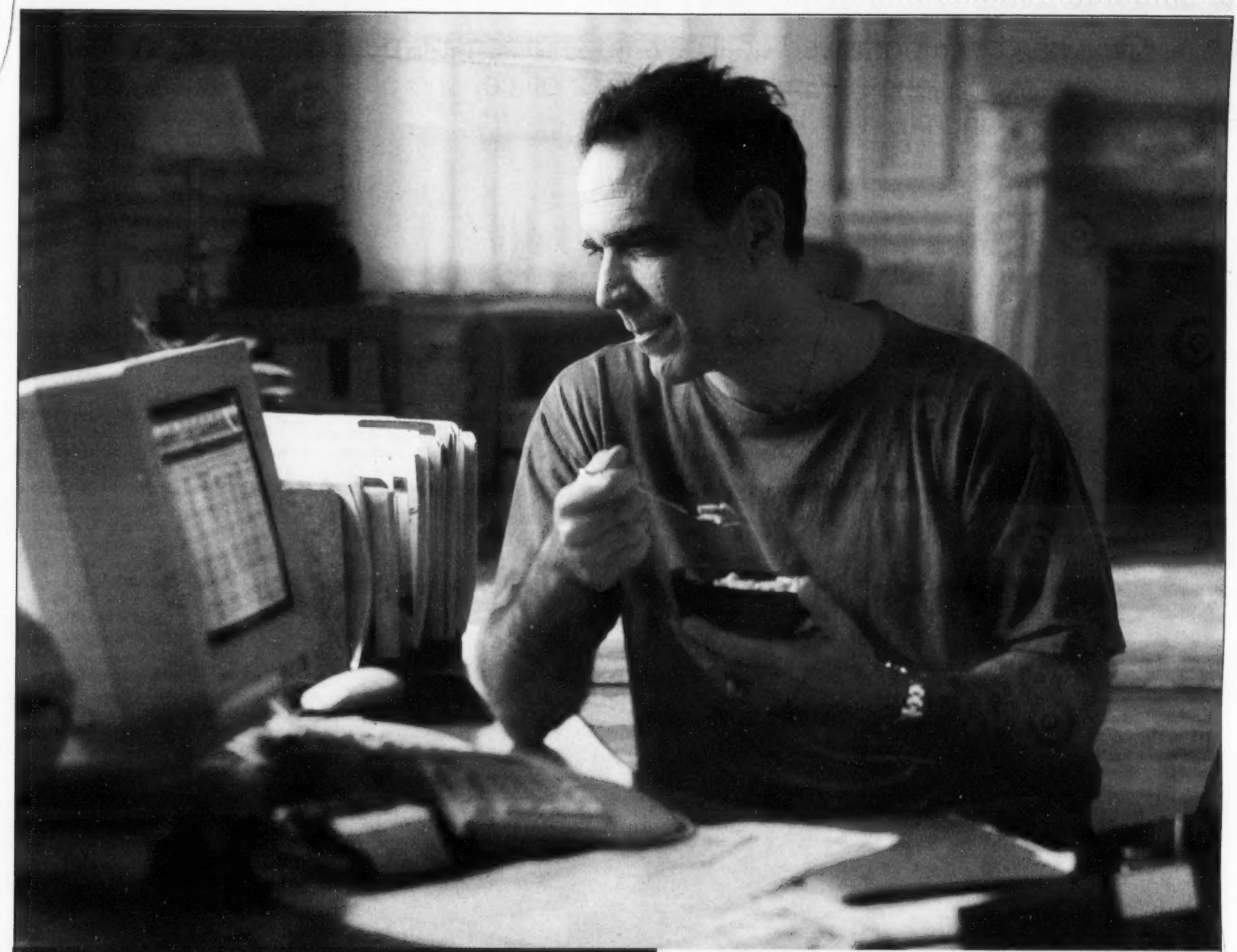

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Jane Swift has been portrayed until now as an arrogant, perk-abusing yuppie. But fate is about to land her in the governor's office, and observers say she'll get one brief chance to rewrite the story line.

Starting over

SWIFT, *continued from cover*
than-dynamic boss, Cellucci, scarred by the Big Dig overrun and a growing scandal over his relationship with the Teamsters, was hanging in with a 50/39.

But Swift has a window. "It could be five minutes, it could be five weeks, it could be five months where people will say, 'Let's give her another chance,'" says WLVI-TV (Channel 56) political reporter Jon Keller, who recently wrote a harsh profile of Swift for *Boston* magazine.

There are signs that whatever honeymoon Swift is likely to receive is already under way. The *Boston Globe* has been bending so far backwards that its institutional tongue is practically licking its heels. Exhibit A: a puffy February 8 feature by Tina Cassidy on a series of breakfast meetings Swift has been having with the female power elite. ("I was impressed," Thalia Schlesinger said of Swift. "She was very articulate.") Exhibit B: an even puffier front-page piece last Sunday in which Joanna Weiss traveled to Swift's home town of North Adams for the purpose of collecting local-girl-makes-good quotes. ("She had to fight hard to get where she is now," one resident told Weiss. "You have to be that type of person. You have to be driven.") Even the *Boston Herald* offered a kinder twist on such past front-page headlines as JANE ERR and JANE AIR by running JANE HEIR next to a flattering photo of Swift in its Saturday edition — although the photo it ran of an eye-rolling Swift on Wednesday was pretty brutal.

No story would be complete without a bit of media intrigue, and the Cellucci-Swift transition is no exception. Following weeks of speculation that Cellucci's friend George W. Bush might name him secretary of transportation or ambassador to Italy, the *Herald*'s "Inside Track" reported on January 11 that the "rumor du jour" was that the governor's real destination might be Canada. As the *Globe* maintained silence, the *Herald*'s Washington bureau chief, Andrew Miga, followed up with a January 26 piece on Cellucci's Canadian prospects, and political editor Joe Sciacca began his January 29 column with: "A question for George W. Bush: What have the Canadians done to deserve this?"

The *Globe* finally struck back on February 9, in the form of a front-page article by State House bureau chief Frank Phillips and Washington staffer Glen Johnson reporting that Cellucci's appointment "will be announced within weeks." That, in turn, led to some off-the-record grumbling in the media-political community that the *Globe* had been tipped off as a reward for the previous day's Tina Cassidy piece, for a squishy Phillips article on Cellucci political adviser Rob Gray's decision not to go to Washington that also ran on February 8, or both. Responds Phillips: not true.

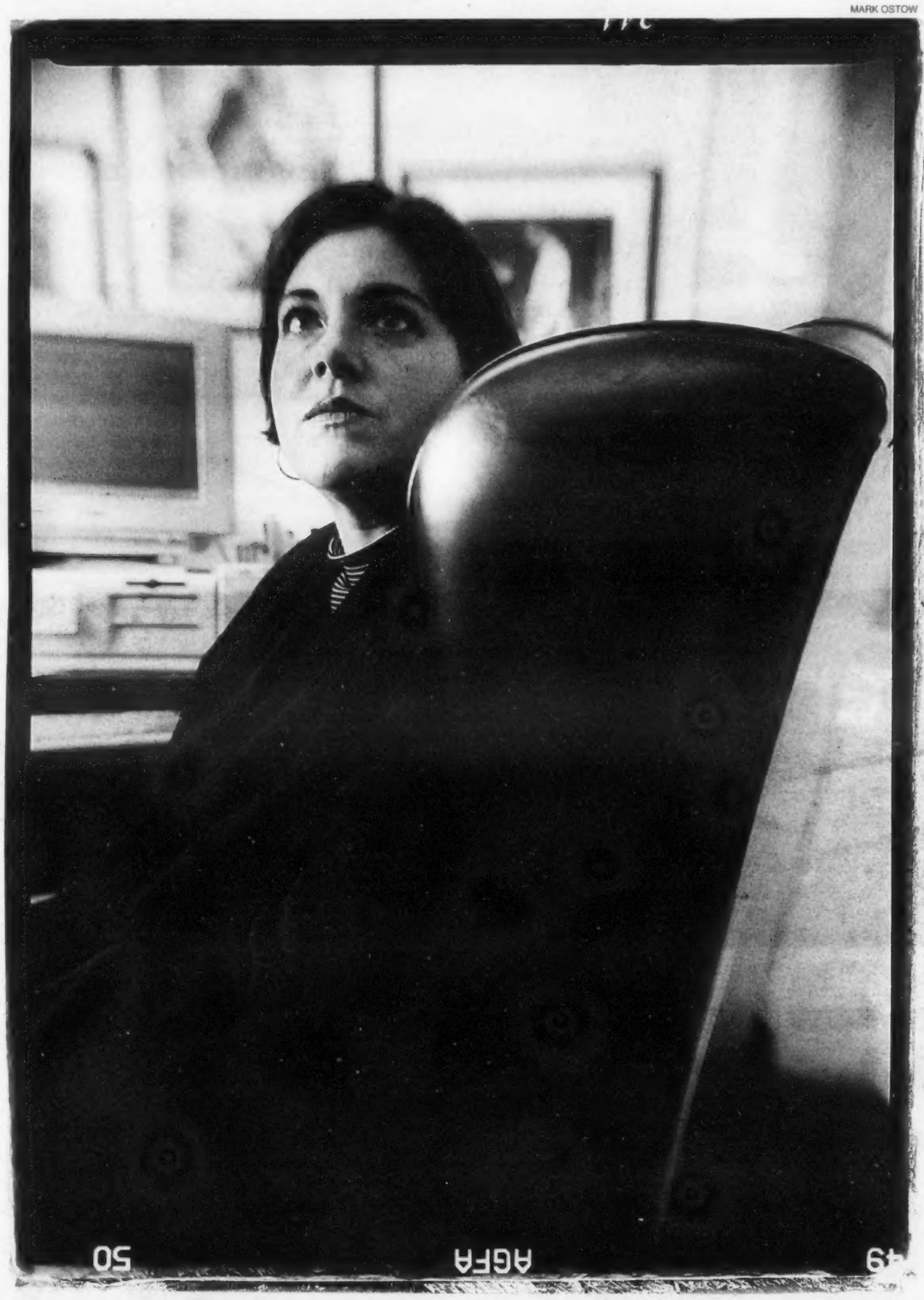
Soon, though, Cellucci will be yesterday's news, and Acting Governor Swift will grab the reins of power — or at least the sides of the gubernatorial podium. With that in mind, the *Phoenix* this week asked a range of media and political observers whether the media have covered Swift fairly up until now — and what she should do to change the story and give herself the fresh start she so obviously needs.

TO A large extent, Swift's problems have stemmed from her status as lieutenant governor, a job more useless than even that of vice-president. "It's a shit job. There shouldn't be such a thing as the lieutenant governor," says WBZ Radio (AM 1030) talk-show host David Brudnoy, who's had Swift on his program several times. "It's a difficult job to do with distinction, so it's damned if you do and damned if you don't." With a real job, Swift will automatically get a chance to make her case, an opportunity she never received when her sole official duty was to preside over the archaic Governor's Council. Brudnoy's suggestion: break dramatically with Cellucci by taking on the Teamsters, whose stranglehold on the local film industry has prompted a government investigation.

Emily Rooney, the host of *Greater Boston*, on WGBH-TV (Channel 2), agrees that the best antidote to Swift's media woes is to leave the lieutenant governor's job behind. "I saw a remarkable turnaround just in the past two days. There's nothing like holding the position in order to command the respect," says Rooney, who thinks Swift's past media troubles were compounded by a newspaper war between the *Globe* and the *Herald* and by a dollop of sexism as well. Rooney's advice to Swift: "Accessibility is the key. The way that you do that is, frankly, through the press. People will get used to her. I think she might be even more comfortable at a press conference than Cellucci."

Democratic political consultant Mary Anne Marsh, a commentator on New England Cable News, is also critical of the media, saying women politicians in general are held to a higher standard than men. Marsh, though, believes Swift blew an opportunity to rehabilitate herself last year by not stepping forward to solve the state's dearth of affordable child care — which would have addressed her own problem and everyone's problem at the same time. But it's not too late, in Marsh's view: "I think if she did that, people across the board, regardless of political affiliation, would be so god-damned grateful that they'd say, 'You know what? I'm going to give her the benefit of the doubt from here on out.'"

MARK OSTOW



REIGN, JANE: *when Swift takes over for her Canada-bound boss, she'll have an opportunity to show her critics what she's made of. And who wouldn't want to give the benefit of the doubt to a hard-working mom who's pregnant with twins?*

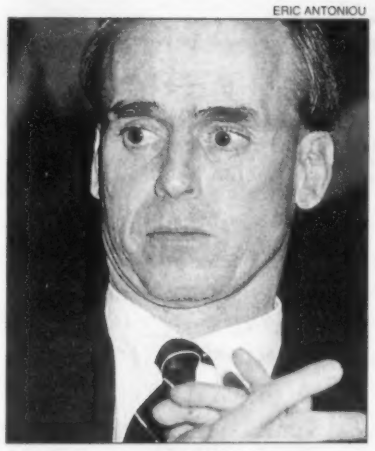
Count WRKO Radio (AM 680) talk-show host Peter Blute among the doubters. Blute, a former Republican congressman, lost his job as head of Massport several years ago when the *Herald* caught him hosting a publicly funded booze cruise, complete with a breast-baring twentysomething named Gidget Churchill. And Swift — who Blute thinks saw him as a potential rival — was among the loudest in calling for Blute's head. Blute, not surprisingly, sees much of Swift's bad press as a result of her own hypocrisy — of the media pouncing on an elected official who didn't hesitate to go after a rival's ethics. "I'm not a big fan," Blute says. As for Swift's future, Blute says he'd like to see Mitt Romney run against her in the Republican primary, and that he considers her too "liberal" and too "wonkish" to unite the fractious Republican Party. (Blute also doesn't rule out running himself, though he says, "I like what I'm doing now.")

Still, Blute thinks there's at least a possibility that Swift can thrive. "I think she's got to pick a few issues and pound them home. Obviously the Democrats are going to be tougher with her than they were with Weld and Cellucci," he says. "The executive has an advantage over the legislature because the executive speaks with one voice, and can position the legislature. There's a big split between [House Speaker Tom] Finneran and [Senate president Tom] Birmingham; she can exploit that. Ultimately the issues do matter. The public does care about education, transportation. Although it doesn't seem like that when the media is covering helicopter rides and boat trips and things like that."

Elizabeth Sherman, a senior fellow at the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, part of UMass Boston's McCormack Institute, says she was struck last year by how negatively Swift's baby-sitting woes were viewed by women reporters. These reporters, Sherman says, resented Swift's air of entitlement in grabbing the perks of political office to solve her child-care needs — perks of the sort the reporters themselves would have loved to have available to them.

"The truth of the matter is those rough, tough, fierce hard edges in women politicians don't go over well," says Sherman.

ERIC ANTONIOU



MARK OSTOW

SECRET WEAPON? *One commentator thinks the unpopularity of State House leaders Tom Finneran (left) and Tom Birmingham could make Swift look good by comparison.*

"We've seen it on the Democratic side with Hillary Clinton, and we've seen it with Jane Swift. And the irony is that for women to make it in politics, you've got to be tough. You can't be thin-skinned and get as high as she is in politics. And yet there is a downside to that. You're very tough, and very often that persona is reflected in the media. And people misinterpret toughness for arrogance. I think Jane Swift has scored best with the public when she's showed her sense of humor. When she dressed up as Monica Lewinsky, that was hilarious. When she went on the Howie Carr show. She's just got to do more of that. That's her strong suit, and I think that can be her salvation."

Channel 56's Jon Keller is among those who think Swift's deserved everything that's been thrown at her, and then some. "She made every obnoxious, arrogant mistake there was," Keller says. "Her approval rating is right down there with dog doo on the carpet. Since then we have been treated to a year of sullen, pouty behavior, of cold-eyed, curt sound bites even when you're just asking about an issue, and incredibly bogus attempts to, quote-unquote, rehabilitate her image." Examples: her inconclusive stints as the Ms. Fix-It of transportation, as the point person for reforming the troubled Department of Social Services, and as the "education czarina."

Keller, though, observes that as acting governor, Swift will have a secret weapon: the unpopularity of Finneran and Birmingham. "She's got a chance to position herself as someone a little different and a little more palatable than these two insiders and their cronies," Keller says, citing education, the budget, political reform, and Clean Elections as areas where she can take populist, outsider positions. "Does she want to make nice with the big boys or does she want to smack them around a little bit?" he asks. "It's up to her."

Two long-time sparring partners, Democratic consultant (and WRKO talk-radio host) Michael Goldman and Republican consultant Charley Manning, take opposite positions on what Swift can do as acting governor. Goldman, who actually thinks the media have been, on balance, easy on Swift (he thinks she's never been held accountable for her lack of experience or her flip-flops on issues such as the death penalty and gun control, both of which she formerly opposed but now supports), says Swift will be irrelevant — just as Cellucci was — because the Republicans don't have enough votes in the legislature to sustain her vetoes.

"The best thing she could do is to say, 'I'm going to serve two years and finish out my term,'" Goldman says. But Manning — who, like Rooney, thinks Swift was the victim of overheated competition between the *Herald* and the *Globe* — says Swift can succeed by appealing to the public, not the legislature. "Cellucci was easily re-elected in a state where Republicans have only 13 percent of the vote," Manning notes. "He was able to reach out to people."

Susan Tracy, a former Democratic state representative and congressional candidate who's now a business consultant, suggests that Swift break the third-termitis that seems to afflict the Weld-Cellucci-Swift State House by changing the players in policy areas such as health care and education. "She's got to bring in some potentially new people in the government who are seen as real leaders in these fields," Tracy says. "It will be interesting to see if she just leaves everything in place or makes changes."

The public doesn't know the real Jane Swift because the media don't show her to them. They show, rather, a caricature.

PERHAPS SWIFT'S most potent weapon is the media themselves. It is, after all, through the media that the public sees Swift. The public doesn't know the real Jane Swift because the media don't show her to them. They show, rather, a caricature.

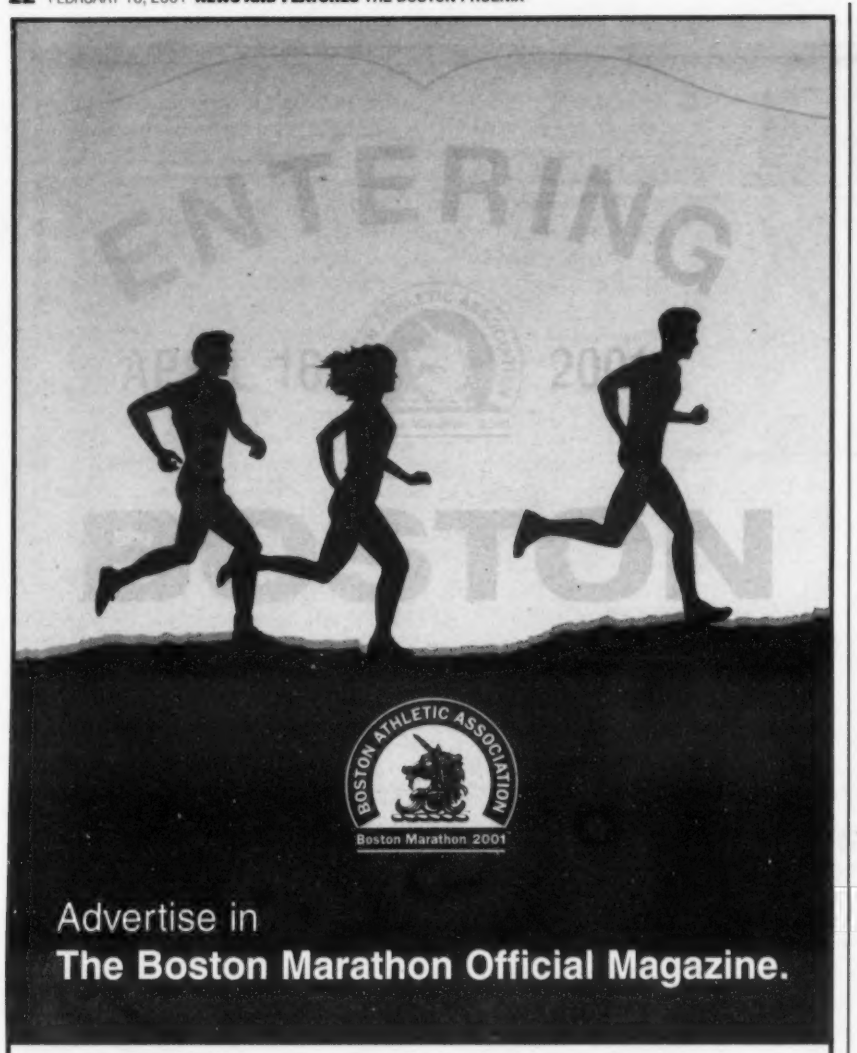
Take, for instance, Ken Norris, the editor of the *North Adams Transcript*. Though he doesn't particularly fault the media for their tough coverage, the Swift he sees in the Boston-centric press is quite different from the one people know in her home town, where she is lauded for her hard work as a state senator, for her tough 1996 campaign against Democratic congressman John Olver, and for her ability to work with Democrats such as North Adams mayor John Barrett. "It's easier to look at her recent mistakes than to look at her record," Norris says of the Boston press.

Bob Keough, the editor of *CommonWealth* magazine, spent quite a bit of time with both Cellucci and Swift in preparation for his cover story in the current issue. "I wouldn't say the press has been unfair to Jane Swift over the past two years, but they focus on the high-profile snafus to the exclusion of everything else," Keough says. "I think she's smarter than the media give her credit for and she's more polished than the media give her credit for. When you sit down with her she can tell a pretty good story about the administration and her accomplishments. I don't think we've seen any of that in the media."

To be sure, even if you cast aside the caricatures, the real Jane Swift is still an extraordinarily fortunate young woman who is about to become the state's first female chief executive more through sheer dumb luck than through any real accomplishments of her own. Yet even critics such as Jon Keller concede that she's intelligent, hard-working, and detail-oriented.

If Swift can use the governor's office to show those qualities — and exploit the media goodwill that comes to any woman pregnant with twins — then she may very well succeed in reinventing herself as a potent political force. ■

Dan Kennedy can be reached at dkennedy@phx.com.



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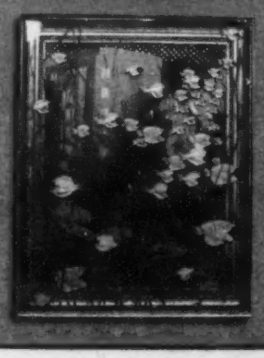

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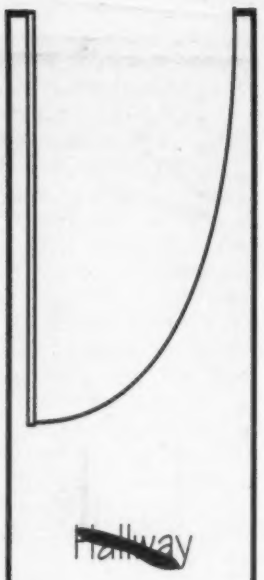

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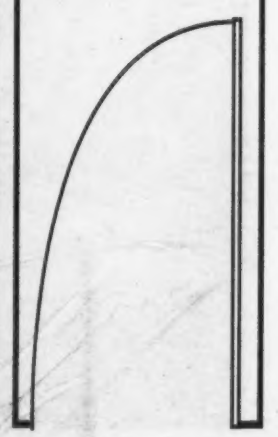

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Big Money got its candidate into the White House, and now Big Money is going to run the White House

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

W.'S CORPORATE CABINET

GREETINGS CAN BE quite different around the world. I'm told that New Zealand's Maori tribesmen rub noses when they meet, that Tibetans stick out their tongues to say hello, and that some East Africans might say howdy by spitting at your feet.

We the people have now been greeted by the full-fledged presidency of Bush the Second — and although Little George didn't literally spit at us or stick his tongue out at us, he did rub our noses in the fact that Big Money got him into the White House and, by golly, Big Money is going to govern.

His new presidential Cabinet has been hailed as rich in diversity for including four women, one Cuban-American, a couple of African-Americans, a Japanese-American, a Lebanese-American, a Chinese-American, and — look! — even a Democrat. But their diversity ends at ethnicity and gender, for the one constant among these new overseers of the federal machinery is that practically all of them have dedicated their careers to advancing corporate interests over working families, the environment, consumers, poor people, family farmers, ordinary taxpayers, and any other people's interests.

Using the smoke screen of multicultural diversity, George's handlers, led by Vice-President Dick Cheney, have assembled a Bush, Incorporated that includes four CEOs, several corporate board members, and a couple of corporate lobbyists. One business newsletter hails the Cabinet as "an all-star boardroom." Swell, except that government ought to have an outlook far broader than that of a boardroom. The Cabinet does not "reflect the diversity of America," as the establishment media have gushed, but the narrow experience, viewpoint, and agenda of corporate America.

The rogues' gallery

Spencer Abraham. This one-term Republican senator from Michigan (defeated in November by Democrat Debbie Stabenow) has had such an undistinguished career, mostly as a political hack, that the highlight of his résumé is his stint as Dan Quayle's deputy chief of staff. He's now your energy secretary, which must be George W.'s idea of a joke, since as a senator, Abraham sponsored a bill to eliminate the very agency he'll now head.

He dislikes environmental regulation, preferring that oil companies and others be turned loose to do what they will to produce more gasoline, nuclear power, and so forth. Among other favors to industry, he led the Senate fight to kill regulations requiring greater fuel efficiency in gas-guzzling SUVs.

Taking such rock-headed positions earned him a rock-bottom zero rating from the League of Conservation Voters. He was, however, beloved by the industry he's now supposed to oversee — in last year's senatorial elections, Abraham was tops in campaign contributions from energy executives and lobbyists.

John Ashcroft. Bush's choice for attorney general, this former senator from Missouri (defeated last November by a dead man) drew heat from Democrats, who argued that he will be a tool of the gun lobby, anti-choice forces, Christian extremists, and so forth. However, for obvious reasons, the Democrats chose not to assail Ashcroft for being a proven tool of big business.

For example, he sponsored an infamous bit of special-interest trash last year that would extend the patent on the super-profitable allergy pill Claritin, marketed by drug giant Schering-Plough. He then pocketed a $50,000 campaign donation from — you guessed it — Schering-Plough. The bill has yet to pass, but Schering's lobbyists are poised to ram it through Congress, a move that will ultimately cost consumers $9.6 billion more than if a generic version of the drug were available. Ashcroft has a long record of fundraising from business interests with important matters before the Justice Department. One of those powerful interests is the pollution lobby: the senator raked in more than $1.7 million for his re-election bid from such grateful donors as BP Amoco, DuPont, Exxon, Monsanto, Occidental Petroleum, Union Carbide, and Weyerhaeuser. They were grateful because the senator had opposed funding for environmental enforcement, voting to roll back clean-water protections and even to let mining companies dump cyanide and other wastes on public lands.

Elaine Chao. Bush beamed when he introduced Chao as his labor secretary, saying she epitomizes "the values and dreams of hard-working Americans." She's the daughter of a family that fled to Taiwan from communist China, then emigrated to the Land of the Free. By diligent effort she rose from poverty to the top, graduating from Harvard, becoming head of the United Way, winning appointments in the Reagan, Bush I, and Bush II administrations — and marrying a US senator along the way!

It's classic Americana, but there are a few defining chapters in Chao's life that Bush conveniently left out, such as the fact that her primary professional experience is not with working-class folks, but rather as an investment banker and corporate director. She has held several positions in the banking industry, including the vice-presidency of Bank of America's capital-markets group. She sits on the boards of Northwest Airlines, Dole Food, Clorox, and Columbia/ HCA Healthcare. (The senator she married, by the way, is the odious Mitch McConnell, the Kentucky Republican best known for crushing any reform of our corrupt campaign-finance system.)

Donald Evans. A Texas oil man and childhood chum of W.'s, Evans is the moneyman who bagged a record $400 million for Bush's presidential campaign. Nearly all of it came from major corporate givers that are now in a position to receive from Evans, the new secretary of commerce. Like Ron Brown and Mickey Kantor in the Clinton years, Evans represents the continuing despicable practice of ensconcing the president's chief fundraiser at the Commerce Department, where he or she can dispense billions of dollars in government largesse.

Bush might claim he has no idea who gave what to lift him to the presidency, but Evans is the keeper of the list that shows to the dime who's in line for government favors — and now, as commerce secretary, he'll keep a new list of who gets those favors, enabling him to dun those people again for the Bush 2004 campaign.

Mel Martinez. As far as we can tell, Martinez is the one Bush appointee with no binding corporate connections. The new head of Housing and Urban Development essentially has spent his career up to his elbows in roads, airports, housing, urban sprawl, and other aspects of public administration. He's the top manager of Orange County, Florida (think Orlando and Disney World), and was one of eight co-chairs of Bush's Florida campaign.

Norman Mineta. Here's Bush's token Democrat, named to head the Transportation Department. A 21-year veteran of Congress from San Jose, California, Mineta rose to the chairmanship of the House Transportation Committee in 1993. Can you guess which industry was his number-one contributor? Collect your cigar if you said transportation. His funders included the American Trucking Association, Boeing, General Electric, Greyhound, Lockheed, Northwest Airlines, UPS, Union Pacific, and United Airlines.

In 1995, Mineta retired from Congress to take a higher position in Washington: corporate vice-president for Lockheed Martin. Can you guess which corporation is a major seeker of government contracts for transportation projects? Collect another cigar.

Gale Norton. This appointment puts the lie to Bush's uniter-not-a-divider claim. Nothing could be more divisive than to put an ardent ally of environmental despoilers at the helm of the Interior Department.

"Chain-saw Gale" Norton worked in Colorado for a corporate front group called the Mountain States Legal Foundation, which was created and funded by the likes of Amoco, Chevron, Exxon, Ford, and Phillips 66. She has been a prominent member of several extremist "property rights" groups financed by such concerned citizens as Boise Cascade, DuPont, and Louisiana Pacific. At a 1991 conference sponsored by one of these outfits, she contended that property rights include the "right to pollute." She was the national chair of the Coalition for Republican Environmental Advocates, which has a steering committee that includes lobbyists for the auto, mining, and oil industries and is funded by such environmental advocates as

Using the smoke screen of multicultural diversity, George's handlers have assembled a Bush, Incorporated.

ıe American Forest Paper Association, .moco, Arco, the Chemical Manufacturers .ssociation, and Ford.

Backed by some of these same polluting ıterests, Norton was elected attorney gen-ral of Colorado in 1990; she gave new ıeaning to the term "lax enforcement" ·ith respect to pollution regulations. Yet ·ush defended her appointment by declar-ıg that she has a "good heart." Indeed, he has shown a touching faith in big busi-ess, allowing Colorado utilities, chemical ompanies, and others to monitor their ·wn compliance with pollution laws and oluntarily report any violations — a policy ·ush wants to apply nationally.

Paul O'Neill. Another appointee who omes to "public service" directly from he corporate suite, O'Neill was CEO of ılcoa, the world's biggest and richest alu-ıinum maker. Previously, he was CEO of nternational Paper Company, and he also erved on the boards of Eastman Kodak nd Lucent Technologies.

As Treasury secretary, the Cabinet's top ·verseer of our nation's economy, O'Neill s charged with working on behalf of all ımericans. But he has already announced ıis intentions to pursue wage-depressing ·olicies and to push for a massive tax cut or America's wealthiest citizens — an elite ;roup that includes him. O'Neill doesn't ven bother with the Bush party line that ax cuts will help buoy the economy. "I ·ould not make a huge case that [tax re-ief] is the instrument to ensure that we lon't go into recession," he told the Senate ·inance Committee. But since he'll profit ıandsomely, it's good enough for him.

Rod Paige. Bush cites the new educa-ion secretary's accomplishments as Houston's school superintendent as the eason for his selection, but he can boast nother achievement that makes Bush's ıoney circle particularly delighted with he choice: Paige has been a champion of ommercializing Houston's classrooms nd privatizing everything from school ayrolls to cafeteria food.

There's gold in them thar schools, if cor-orations can get service contracts or di-ect access to the children — and Paige as been a pushover for companies want-ıg to do either. For example, he turned ·od service over to Aramark, Inc.; payroll ver to PeopleSoft; and accounting over to AP. In all three of these privatized areas, ervice is worse and costs are higher.

Paige is also big on selling schoolchil-ren to marketers. Last year, for example, e cut an exclusive marketing deal with ·oca-Cola, letting the soft-drink giant fill ıe school system's hallways with Coke ıachines and aggressively promote its ans of empty calories to students.

Paige also waved in Primedia Corpora-on's Channel One, a 10-minute television roadcast that is beamed directly into lassrooms each morning. Posing as an educational tool," Channel One is really n advertiser's dream. Two of the 10 min-tes consist of ads hawking such goods as ıe wares of M&M/Mars, PepsiCo, .eebok, and Nintendo. These companies et a captive audience and are allowed not only to peddle their products, but also to teach the gospel of consumerism in the schools.

Colin Powell. The secretary of state is the sparkliest star in this rather drab constellation. Since his Gulf War heyday (he has, by the way, never assumed any leadership responsibility for the more than 100,000 US veterans suffering from Gulf War Syndrome, but that's another story), General Powell has cashed in on his fame by, among other ventures, becoming a corporate director and banquet speaker.

He hauled home $7 million in speaking fees last year alone, addressing the gatherings of such corporate empires as Credit Suisse, missile maker Lucent Technologies, and Petsmart, Inc. Until his appointment, he was on the board of America Online, where he received stock worth more than $20 million tucked away in other corporate investments, including $1 million invested in weapons giant General Dynamics.

Anthony Principi. This Vietnam vet, who later became a lawyer and chief Republican counsel to the Senate Veterans Committee, returns to the Veterans Affairs Department, where he served as acting secretary for a brief spell at the end of the reign of Bush I.

Heir to a family-owned real-estate company, Principi is also millionaire veteran of the executive suite. He left government in 1992 to become president of QTC Medical Services, Inc. Later, he was the ramrod of Lockheed Martin Integrated Systems, a high-tech subsidiary of the giant defense contractor. His most recent position was as president of a wireless-technology firm called the Federal Network.

Donald Rumsfeld. Weapons makers are absolutely giddy with Bush's choice to head the Defense Department. Rumsfeld is a trusted member of the CEO brotherhood, and he never met a military boondoggle he wouldn't hug. A former Illinois congressman and holder of various appointments in the Nixon and Ford administrations, Rumsfeld has spent the years since leaving public office amassing a multimillion-dollar fortune. He has served as CEO of General Instrument Corp. and of G.D. Searle & Co., the global drug maker now owned by Monsanto. He's on the board of directors of Asea Brown Boveri Ltd. (a huge Swedish-based engineering conglomerate), the Tribune Company (the Chicago media conglomerate), Gilead Sciences, Inc. (a biopharmaceutical company), and RAND Corporation (the corporate-funded think tank and tireless promoter of Pentagon spending). He's also chairman of the international advisory board of the Wall Street firm Salomon Smith Barney.

Rumsfeld's hallmark, however, is his relentless cheerleading for spending our tax dollars on weapons that don't work, aren't needed, or are grossly overpriced. Now he's positioned to produce his greatest-ever exercise in excess at our expense: Star Wars. This is the Reagan-era fantasy of a system that can shoot down incoming missiles — a trick that practically every independent scientist and military expert says is neither possible nor necessary, yet in the pursuit of which billions have been frittered away on research contracts and failed tests. Rumsfeld is part of a corporate clique demanding another $60 billion to continue this folly. He chaired a 1998 commission appointed to hoke up a PR rationalization for spending these bucks. For this, he was given the "Keeper of the Flame" award by the Center for Security Policy, a Star Wars front group financed by — big surprise — Boeing, General Dynamics, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Rockwell International, TRW, and other contractors that would split the Star Wars loot.

Tommy Thompson. The long-time governor of Wisconsin, known nationally for his get-tough policy on welfare moms, has been a softy on welfare kings: corporations that have donated to his campaigns and — in an amazing coincidence — then received lucrative state contracts, subsidies, and regulatory favors.

Tapped by Bush to oversee health policy, he is quite experienced at tapping into the pocketbooks of the health-care industry. In his last gubernatorial race, he was showered with campaign contributions from HMOs, hospital chains, nursing homes, clinics, doctors, insurance companies, and lobbyists for all of the above. His new domain, the sprawling Department of Health and Human Services, includes the Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — two agencies at the center of the national fight against tobacco addiction. As governor, Tommy was often AWOL in this battle with nicotine pushers, perhaps because he had a cozy relationship with one of the biggies, Philip Morris, Inc. The cigarette maker has put more than $72,000 in the governor's political pockets. Tommy did what he could for the company, including vetoing a bill that would let Wisconsin cities enact tobacco restrictions tougher than the meek state laws.

Ann Veneman. The White House spin is that Bush's choice for agriculture secretary is a "farmer's daughter" in tune with the Jeffersonian yeomen of America. Well, not quite. Her father was a farmer, with a spread of orchards and vineyards around Modesto, California, but he was also a Republican legislator and Nixon's undersecretary of health, education and welfare.

There's no soil under Veneman's fingernails; she's spent her career in Washington and Sacramento, pushing for free-trade and biotech policies that rip off and displace our nation's real dirt farmers. She was deputy agriculture secretary for trade under Bush I, supporting NAFTA and other acronyms of globaloney. She comes to W.'s Cabinet directly from the Sacramento law firm of Nossaman, Guthner, where she specialized in serving the needs of agribusiness giants and biotech corporations seeking to implant their Frankenfoods in our diets. Indeed, Veneman was on the board of Calgene, Inc. (now a subsidiary of Monsanto), which was the first firm to market a genetically altered food product in America — a fresh-market tomato with a fish gene spliced in to give it a longer shelf life. She's also a participant in the International Policy Council of Agriculture, Food, and Trade, an agribusiness front group financed by Monsanto, Cargill, Archer Daniels Midland, Kraft, and Nestlé, among other global corporations.

Christie Whitman. Because she's the pro-choice governor of New Jersey, Whitman has been widely cited as proof of Bush's ideological flexibility. Do we look like we have sucker wrappers around our heads? As the new chief of the Environmental Protection Agency, Whitman has zero power over abortion policy — and on matters where she does have power, she's no progressive.

Governor Whitman brought a laissez-faire approach to environmental regulation in her state, pledging in her first inaugural address to make New Jersey "open for business." Wide open: she slashed her state's environmental-enforcement budget by 30 percent, which resulted in an 80 percent decrease in fines assessed on polluters. She weakened state oversight of pesticide use and removed more than 1000 chemicals from the state's right-to-know program. She tried to eliminate the state's Clean Water Enforcement Act. She signed an order to roll back most state regulations that were tougher on polluters than federal regulations. She allowed polluters to monitor their own air and water emissions and to comply with regulations on a voluntary basis — and instead of fining companies caught polluting, she gave them a "grace period" to stop doing it. ■

Jim Hightower, author of If the Gods Had Meant Us To Vote, They Would Have Given Us Candidates *(HarperCollins), is a nationally syndicated columnist and political commentator. This article originally appeared in the* Hightower Lowdown. *For more information, visit www.jimhightower.com.*

JAY LINCOLN

Joe Kennedy is under the spotlight as political mavens wonder whether he's running for governor in 2002. But until he makes an official announcement, the tough questions aren't likely to get asked.

Stealth candidate

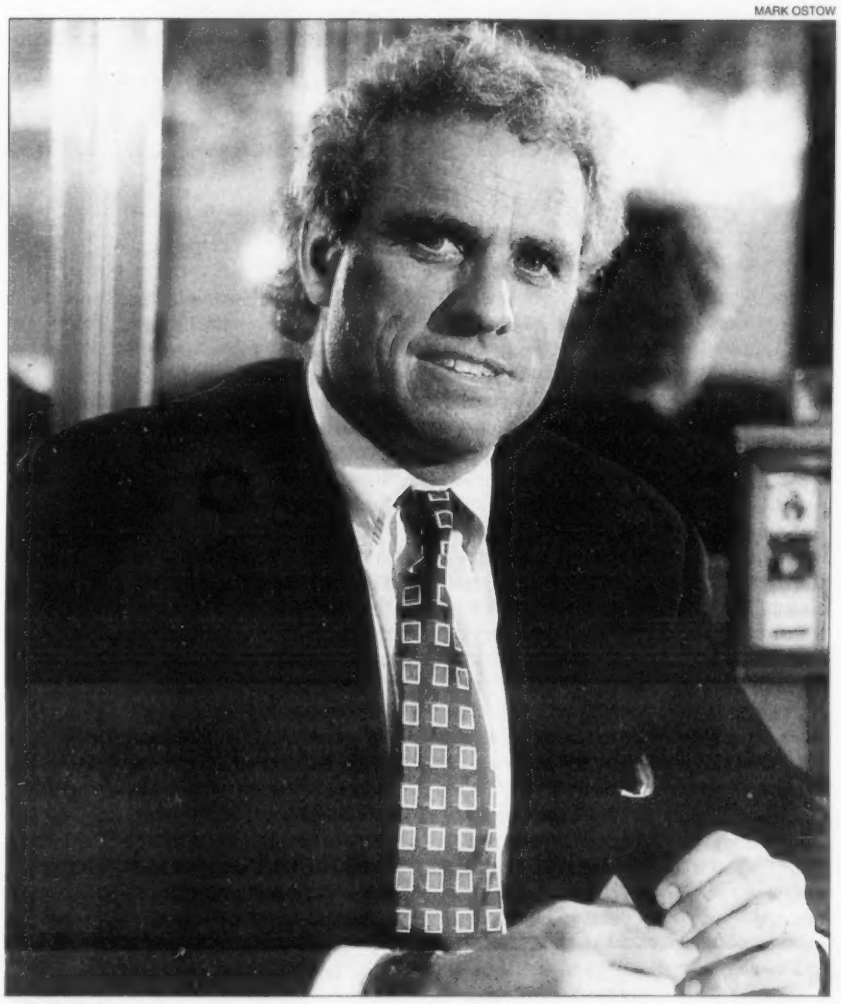
KENNEDY, *continued from cover*
had asked his uncle Ted for advice on whether to run.

His performances in public, meanwhile, are really heating speculation. Take, for instance, the last time he shared a public platform with soon-to-be-acting-governor Jane M. Swift. Kennedy sharply criticized his potential Republican opponent over the Cellucci administration's wavering commitment to anti-poverty programs. Both had agreed to appear at a press conference for Project Bread, which provides free breakfasts to children. When his turn at the mike came, Kennedy tore into the administration with a vengeance. "You can't just go around saying, 'We cut these programs' … and then come back and say, 'Listen, that's fine, we'll sign up for the initiative,'" Kennedy said, according to the *Boston Globe*. Swift fired back, asking him whether the criticism was politically motivated. "Is that you beginning your campaign?" she queried. Kennedy denied that it was.

Then there was his attendance on February 2 at his sister Kerry Kennedy Cuomo's book signing for *Speak Truth to Power* at the Boston Public Library. The book includes interviews with human-rights activists from around the world, such as Elie Wiesel, and photographs from it decorated the foyer of the library. At the event, Kennedy and his brother Max sure looked as though they were rallying the troops — shaking hands and greeting the faithful. Kennedyphiles interested in helping the family politically had an added interest in attending: the author is married to Andrew Cuomo, who just announced his plans to run for governor of New York. According to those familiar with the event, Max urged long-standing supporters to stay local, hinting broadly that someone in the family would be running a race in Massachusetts. His message to the Kennedy faithful was clear: keep your dance cards open.

Meanwhile, during his appearance this past Sunday at the annual meeting of the local branch of the American Jewish Committee at the Newton Marriott, Kennedy played the role of stealth candidate to a tee. There to accept the Norman S. Rabb Human Relations Award from the nonprofit, nonpartisan group (which in the past has honored US Representative Barney Frank, former Boston mayor Ray Flynn, Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates Jr., and former Boston Celtic M.L. Carr), Kennedy mingled with attendees as aides ushered him from table to table. To be sure, AJC breakfast co-chair Jim Segel noted to the *Phoenix* that the AJC had invited Kennedy in September, before speculation about his running for governor was as acute as it is now. Though he added that whether Kennedy would be a candidate for governor has "been a question since he left Congress."

MARK OSTOW



DR. NO: *in the face of permanent campaign fever, Kennedy prescribes a "chill pill." Good medicine if he's trying to schmooze local officials and potential campaign donors.*

Of course, now that President George W. Bush has nominated Governor Paul Cellucci to be ambassador to the Great White North, speculation about Kennedy will only increase — and a stealth campaign will be that much harder to run. Lou DiNatale, director of the Center for State and Local Policy at UMass Boston's McCormack Institute, says Democrats have to get their house in order: "Now it looks like any number of Democrats could be competitive, if not win. Pressure is on contributors and operatives to make decisions sooner rather than later. It says, 'Come on, Joe. Make the decision.'"

THAT'S JUST what Kennedy learned when he showed up at the Newton Marriott Sunday morning. Before he arrived, attendees coolly hung up their coats and greeted one another. The atmosphere had a serene, pre-caffeine morning air. Then Kennedy walked in. Television reporters from WFXT (Channel 25) and WHDH (Channel 7), with cameras and techies in tow, immediately accosted him. Was he running? When was he going to make a decision? Kennedy put them off with glib generalities, saying he hadn't made any decisions yet and would "in time." Of course, if the TV cameras had stuck around for more than a sound bite, they would have recorded somebody who looked very much like a candidate.

For instance, just as Kennedy tried to elude the cameras, an AJC member came up to him, a small child by her side. Kennedy delved back into a family treasure — the John F. "Honey Fitz" Fitzgerald campaign handbook — to handle the pair. "I've got a fan for you," she said, motioning to the child. Kennedy turned on his high-beam smile. "How are you today? Nice to see ya," he said. The woman mentioned something about her grandchildren. "You've got 11 grandchildren — a prett' girl like you? You must be fibbin' about your age, kid."

When Kennedy finally made it inside the Marriott function room — beyond the glare of the televisions cameras — his campaigning turned up a notch. He made his way from table to table shaking hands with AJC members, hugging elderly women, and introducing himself to children. He schmoozed for several minutes with the influential — but officially apolitical — head of Boston's Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Barry Shrage.

When it was time to present Kennedy with the award, Jim Segel gave him a florid introduction, lauding Kennedy's work at Citizens Energy, as well as his contributions to international and local human rights. Taking the podium, Kennedy couldn't resist a jab at the media. "After listening to Jim's introduction, I was just wondering if we could invite all those TV cameras in and play it again," he quipped. He then pointed out the politicians present, including Newton mayor David Cohen and Worcester senator Harriette Chandler. During his speech, he made sure to mention those issues sure to elicit warm feelings from the audience — from praising its commitment to "dialogue" to offering up a statement of his steadfast support for Israel, "a very good country in a very tough neighborhood."

After Kennedy's speech, there was time for one question; it came from Mimi Wishner Segel, Jim's wife and the co-chair of the group. She asked whether he would run for governor. Again Kennedy answered properly, putting off the meddling press and invoking his beloved father. Kennedy said that he and his wife, Beth, had been talking before the event about how soon candidates are expected to make a decision these days. (Obviously, they'd been strategizing about how to handle the press crush when they arrived.) "When my dad announced for president of the United States, if you take the same election cycle, he did it 13 months from now," Kennedy said. "The notion that we have allowed this process to get so far out of control hurts the governing process. I think we should just take a chill pill here."

What a great idea — at least for Kennedy. As long as he remains uncommitted, the press has no reason to ask nosy questions — either personal or professional. No probing, for instance, into just what it is that Kennedy's Citizens Energy Corporation does. Everyone — or almost everyone with a television — knows that Citizens Energy is a nonprofit company most famous for providing low-cost home-heating oil to the poor and the elderly. But what about the for-profit activities — such as electricity trading — that fund its charitable activities?

There's none of that in a stealth campaign, where you can make the rounds, build good relationships with local officials from far-flung but important locales such as Worcester, and backslap potential donors. If nothing else, Kennedy's AJC award gave him face time with would-be campaign donors. It might not seem so at first, but raising money for this race won't be very easy. Even though he is a Kennedy, Joe will face some challenges if he runs. The money he raised for years as a congressman from the Eighth District is federal money — no good to him in a state race. If he runs for governor, a primary battle is likely to include Massachusetts Senate president Tom Birmingham, who has raised a whopping $2.2 million, and Steve Grossman, one of whose major skills is fundraising — much of it from philanthropically inclined Jews like those who attended the AJC event.

In the meantime, two other high-profile Kennedy races are in the works. Not only has Joe's brother-in-law Andrew Cuomo announced that he will seek the governor's office in New York, but the popular Kathleen Kennedy Townsend is preparing to run for governor in Maryland. Both races will tie up resources that might have gone to Joe. Kennedy could get around these problems if he opts to be a Clean Elections candidate, as suggested by *Boston Globe* columnist David Nyhan in January. But of course, that all hinges on whether the Clean Elections Law is fully implemented in time for the 2002 race.

Until he gives a definite answer — remember, he has not said for sure that he *won't* be a candidate — Kennedy will be under the spotlight. But the heat he feels now will be nothing compared to what it will be like if he *does* run — hence the "stealth" campaign. Most observers from Democratic circles believe Kennedy will make an announcement once Cellucci is confirmed as ambassador, in a couple of months. But judging by Kennedy's performance Sunday, we'll be hearing more from the eldest son of RFK — probably sooner rather than later. ■

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What about Max?

WITH THE SPOTLIGHT on speculation about Joe Kennedy and the race for governor, another local Kennedy who's beginning to dabble in politics has escaped scrutiny: Joe's younger brother Max.

On Tuesday, the *Boston Herald* floated the name of the younger Kennedy as a potential successor to Congressman Joe Moakley of South Boston, who announced this week that he has been diagnosed with leukemia and will not seek re-election in 2002. On Wednesday, the *Globe* did the same. A now-bearded Max paid his respects at Moakley's emotional press conference at the new federal courthouse, where the announcement was made.

Kennedy, a former Philadelphia prosecutor who heads a literacy program at Boston College, has been visible in the Commonwealth since he headed Senator Ted Kennedy's 2000 re-election effort. He schmoozed with the Massachusetts delegation staying at the Beverly Hilton during the Democratic convention in August and has made the rounds at events locally. Kennedy recently hinted to family loyalists that a Kennedy would soon be running for office in Massachusetts. What if Kennedy wasn't referring to his brother Joe when he said that? What if he was referring to himself?

Before the stunning news about Moakley broke, a theory making the rounds suggested that if Joe Kennedy were to decide not to run for governor, then Max would run in his place. When asked if it were true, Max brushed the idea aside. "You'd be the first person to go with that one," he said. Joe Kennedy, likewise, laughed the idea off. "Oh gosh, I don't know," he said, with jocularity reminiscent of Fred MacMurray in *My Three Sons*. "Check with Max. That's a good one."

If Max Kennedy does want to run for something — and his brother does not — Moakley's seat might be a good place to start.

— Seth Gitell

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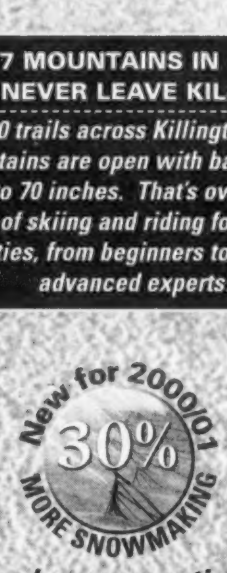

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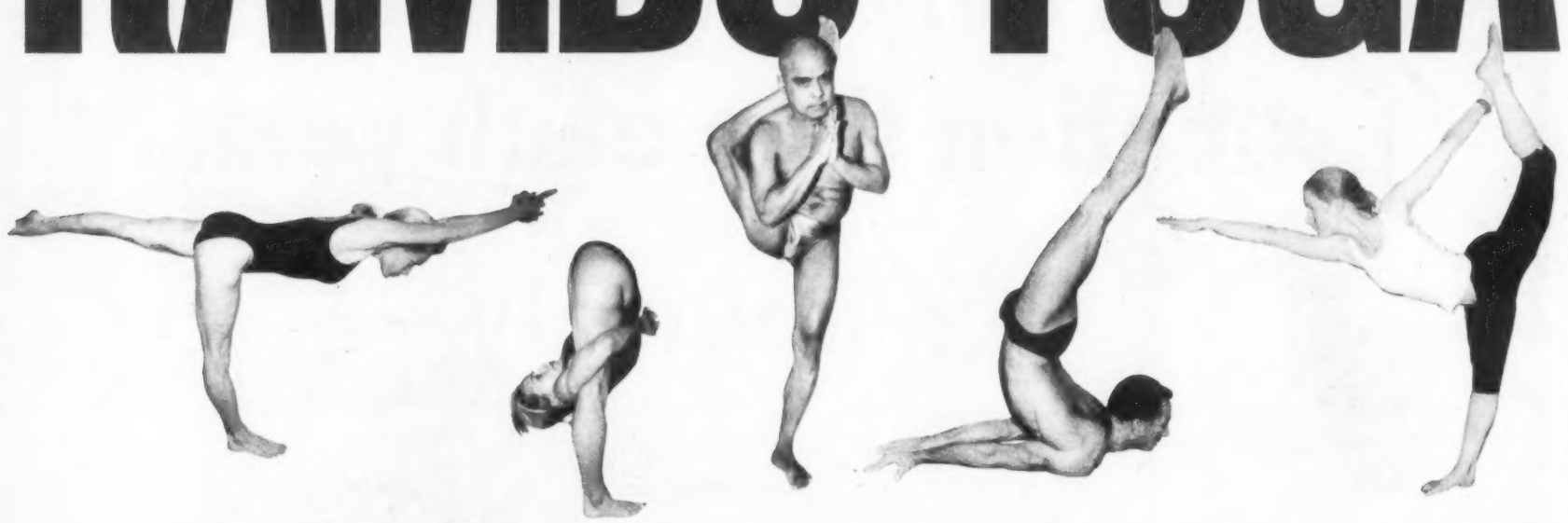


PHOTOS FROM *BIKRAM'S BEGINNING YOGA CLASS*. COURTESY PUTNAM BOOKS, EXCEPT END PHOTO BY MOLLY HAMILL

BIKRAM YOGA PROMISES TO BAKE, STRETCH, AND PULL YOU INTO SHAPE. WHAT'S BEHIND THE OVERHEATED HYPE? BY NINA WILLDORF

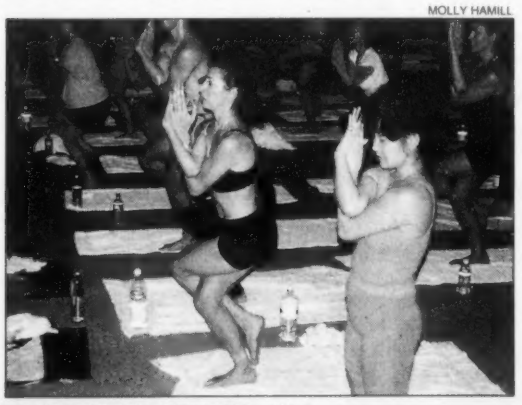
I WAS IN a room heated to 100 degrees, surrounded by 90 red-faced men and women. Young, old, and predominantly white, we were standing with our left knees locked, trying to pull our right heels straight in front of us — teetering, slipping, sweating. A glamorous-looking Indian woman wearing a skin-tight Nike ensemble and a headset barked out commands.

"Now, you are pulling your heel from the outside. Now, you are locking that knee. *Lock it!* Pull. Stretch. Shoulders back! Stretch! Hips forward! Pull. Pull! *Pull! PULL!*" I felt a drop of moisture race down my cheek as a man in a mini-Speedo gently adjusted me at the hips; I wasn't sure whether it was a tear or sweat, but either way, I was embarrassed. My head throbbed. The room spun. I desperately patted the ground around me for my bottle of water.

Welcome to yoga class.

To some, this would be torture. But to the men and women who pulled, stretched, grunted, and sweated alongside me — all of whom had paid hundreds of dollars to be there — it's one of life's pleasures. The class was part of a two-day seminar on Bikram yoga at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health, the country's largest yoga retreat, perched above Lenox, Massachusetts, in the Berkshires. Bikram, the specifically steamy brand of yoga I sweated through, is just one among seemingly endless varieties. Some focus on meditation and spirituality, others on relaxation; some concentrate on holding poses (called *asanas*) for long periods of time; some run through poses quickly. All require a mixture of balance, breath, stretching, and mindfulness — an awareness of your body in space.

MOLLY HAMILL



CROUCHING TIGERS: *Bikram yoga puts participants through 26 poses, each performed twice, in a room heated to 100 degrees.*

Celebrities, rock stars, and senior citizens alike are flocking to Bikram yoga. But the same thing that draws the crowds incites the critics, who call the practice dangerous, the founder ridiculous, and the growing interest evidence that it's simply the latest athletic fad — this year's Tae-Bo. Because it lacks an overt spiritual element, Bikram takes heat from some within the larger yoga community, who question whether the extreme workout can even be classified as yoga. More important, critics are concerned that Bikram instructors are being churned out too quickly and without proper training, heightening the risk of dangerous injury.

But for devotees, Bikram yoga is a cure-all that inspires cultlike devotion. "This has changed my life," says Julie Mowschenson, who ran up to talk to me after class. A small-framed, blond 41-year-old, she is a somewhat surprising candidate for the vigorous discipline, because of both her age and size. Nevertheless, she's hooked. "I haven't been sick in a year, my PMS is much better, I sleep better, I'm calmer, I'm happier," exults the Brookline nurse. "I'm in the best shape I've ever been in. I love it."

WHATEVER THE strain, yoga is becoming the trendiest of activities, and — as the *New York Times* Styles section recently noted — the latest arena in which type-A personalities are rushing to compete. According to polls conducted by *Yoga Journal*, 18.5 million Americans practiced yoga regularly in 1998, up from 6.2 million just four years before. And those figures don't even reflect the remarkable growth in the past three years. "When I started a year ago, there were 10 or 12 people in my class," Mowschenson says of the Bikram class she attends three times a week in Roxbury. "Now, it's *unbelievable*. It's like sardines. You have to get there an hour early just to get your spot."

But even in the world of type-A yoga-goers, Bikram is hard core. The trendy practice is named after Bikram Choudhury, a self-titled yogi from Beverly Hills via Calcutta, who emphatically claims that doing his — and *only* his — type of yoga five times a week will lessen the symptoms of chronic illnesses. Jokingly dubbed "Rambo Yoga" or "Bikram's Torture Chamber," it is definitely the most aggressive and prescriptive of the various forms. Always done in a room heated to a piping 100 degrees, Bikram yoga moves through 26 poses, each repeated twice — every time in the same order. Completing that routine, its founder promises, will cure ailments as varied as varicose veins, diabetes, and depression. "I will treat you from the bone to the skin, from the head to the toes," Bikram said multiple times during our phone conversation. "This is a preventative medicine." And according to Bikram, the heat is a critical component because it allows increased flexibility. "If you took a piece of steel to a blacksmith and asked him to make a sword, he'd heat it up," he explains.

BIKRAM COUNTS AMONG HIS REGULAR CLIENTS MICHAEL JACKSON, BARBRA STREISAND, AND CANDICE BERGEN. HE EVEN CLAIMS TO HAVE USED HIS TRADEMARK HIGH-INTENSITY, HIGH-HEAT YOGA TO CURE RICHARD NIXON'S KNEE TROUBLE: "I BAKED HIM LIKE A SAN FRANCISCO CHINATOWN PEKING DUCK," BIKRAM GIGGLES.

Whether or not the analogy makes sense to all, a dictatorial environment with shouting instructors, speaker systems, and imperative commands doesn't leave much room for skeptics. At the Kripalu retreat, the barking woman was none other than Bikram's wife, Rajashree Choudhury, who as a teenager in Calcutta was the five-time all-India yoga champion. These days, in Beverly Hills, she and her husband preach more than they practice. And people are lining up to listen. Bikram is something of a yoga guru to the stars, counting among his regular clients Michael Jackson, Barbra Streisand, and Candice Bergen. He says he even cured former president Richard Nixon of knee trouble in the early 1970s. "I baked him like a San Francisco Chinatown Peking duck," he giggles.

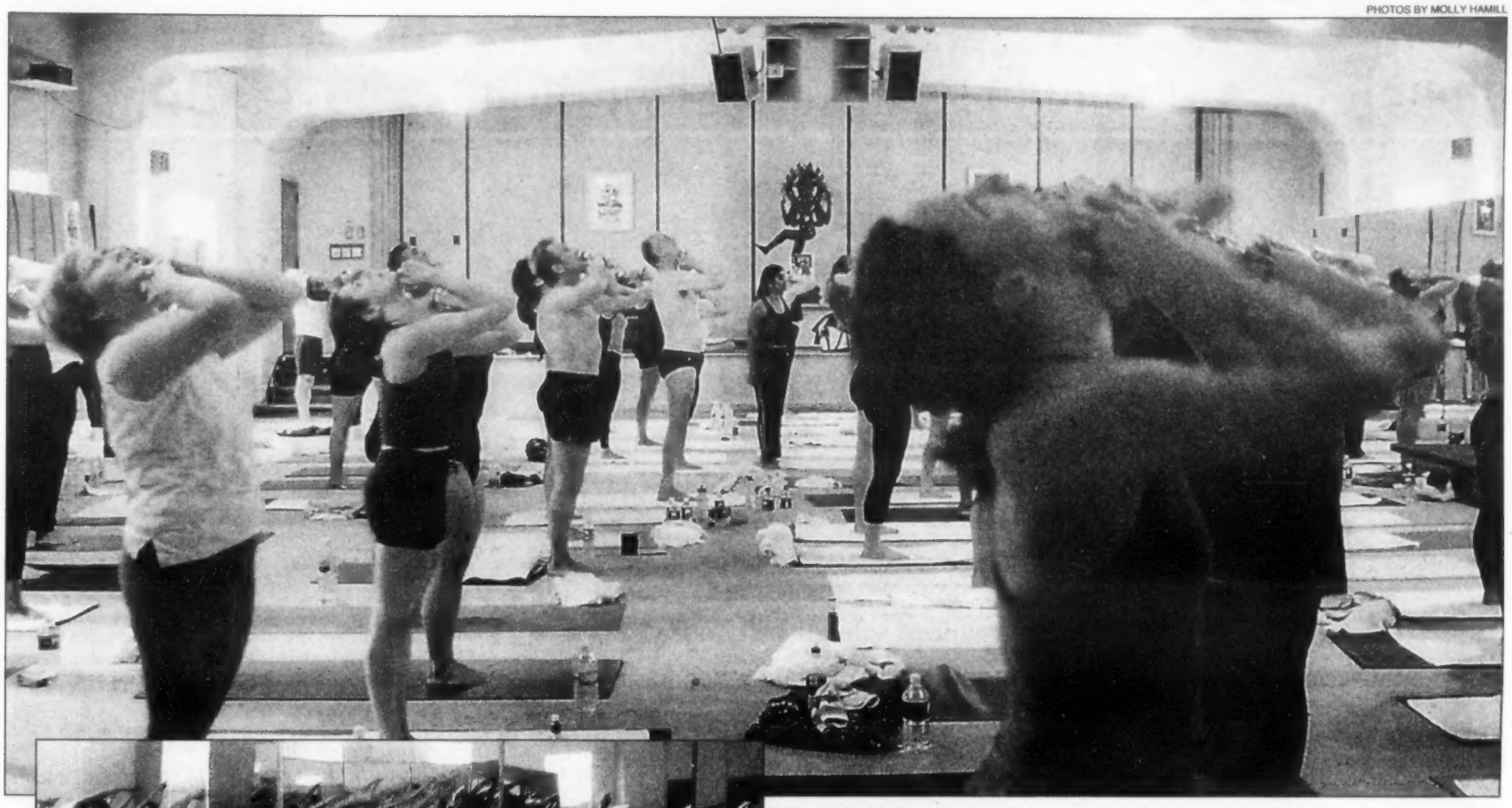
The Choudhurys opened a school in 1974, the Yoga College of India, where they currently lead two-month-long instructor-training sessions three times a year — for $5000 per student. The last round graduated about 200 fresh new Bikram instructors, with specific directions to go forth and conquer, and open their own Bikram Yoga College of India studios, with financial assistance if needed. "All these people are graduating and going to their town and opening schools," Bikram says. "They are making between $30,000 and $50,000 within a month." The next instructor-training session, which starts in April, is nearly full, with 300 people already registered.

Beyond the classes, there's a book, a video, and audio tapes. In fact, Bikram is very much a brand name. "We really want everyone to speak the same language," notes Rajashree. And that language is spreading: today, there are more than 120 Bikram-yoga studios in the United States, and 10 internationally. Boston alone boasts three separate studios. And the weekend-long seminar at Kripalu was so overbooked there was a four-page waiting list of people pining to attend.

The self-proclaimed yogi certainly doesn't downplay the financial success his spiritual practice brings (though his visible appreciation for Rolls Royces and Rolexes makes him an easy target for sneering). And he doesn't mind being thought of as a guru, either. When asked how he wants to be identified, Bikram responded: "You are asking me to be humble. I don't know. I was born with supernatural power. I see things. When I see you I will know you more than God knows you, more than your mother knows you. And I'm never wrong once in my life. What do you call that?" He finished with a suggestion. "God-gifted healer?"

When Bikram's name came up at the Kripalu seminar, people's eyes sparkled, and the many Bikram instructors in attendance threw around personal anecdotes. "He's incredible," sighed Sydney Saunders, who runs a Bikram studio with Jonathan Burbank on Lincoln Street in Boston. "If someone doesn't get along with him, it's because of them."

PHOTOS BY MOLLY HAMILL



CLASS ACTS: *the Bikram yoga seminar at Kripalu boasted a four-page waiting list of participants hoping to attend. Those who made the cut sweated through two days of intense sessions.*

THE DAY after my bout with Bikram's torture chamber, I was in bed with a raging headache and the chills. My body hurt more than it had after I'd finished running a marathon a few months before.

The Bikram people warned me this would happen. "That's completely normal," said Saunders, over lunch in between sessions, when I mentioned other people's anecdotes of vomiting, passing out, and general flu-like symptoms. Bikram tells me that Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Dan Marino were similarly floored by the experience. "They collapse in my class in 10 minutes. They get up, go out, and throw up. They find out they're nothing but a piece of *junk*," he says, with no small amount of pride.

Some medical professionals are visibly concerned that those "normal" aftereffects are dangerous signs of dehydration brought on by unnecessarily excessive heat exposure. "Throbbing headache, dizziness, nausea, lightheadedness — that means you're not getting enough blood flow to the brain," says Lawrence Armstrong, an associate professor of exercise and environmental physiology at the University of Connecticut, who specializes in heat illnesses. "That means you should *stop*."

And despite Bikram's assertion that the heat is necessary to "bake" muscles, ligaments, and tendons internally, Armstrong says that's bunk: "You could conduct yoga in a 100-degree room or a 70-degree room and get the same gains. I'm skeptical that a hot air temperature is going to make the muscles, ligaments, and tendons warm. The body maintains its temperature at 98.6 degrees, and to warm muscles and ligaments takes a lengthy heating session or exercise which produces internal heat and increased blood flow. If a body maintains 98.6 degrees — which it does by sweating — the muscles are not warmer."

Among the exhaustive list of diseases Bikram claims to have cured is multiple sclerosis (MS), a degenerative neurological disorder. But Judy Rosenbaum, the program manager at the Central New England chapter of the National MS Society, says that without question, heating up the body — especially as high as 100 degrees — is one of the worst things you can do for patients. Although other forms of yoga have been shown to lessen the severity of MS symptoms, she cautions that heat often brings on serious reactions. "With MS patients, you need to emphasize cooling down," she says. "A *significant* number of people with MS have trouble with heat."

And though most people cite weight loss as their favorite result of Bikram yoga, Armstrong says that any dips on the scale are simply the result of water loss from sweating; the weight is likely to come back with the next meal.

Bikram and Rajashree are seeking a grant to do medical research on diseases so that they can eventually prescribe poses for specific conditions. But Todd Jones, an editor at *Yoga Journal*, questions whether such prescriptiveness — what he calls the "take three *asanas* and call me in the morning" approach — is really the purpose of yoga. "The important thing to remember is that yoga is holistic," he says, "and any holistic approach can help heal, not necessarily cure."

WITH HIS successful school, videos, tapes, and packed classes, Bikram is clearly delivering a welcome message to the masses. But he's not the only one cashing in on a blend of Western athleticism and Eastern practice. Baron Baptiste's Power Yoga Institute, in Cambridge's Porter Square, also features a curious mix of high-octane physicality and pseudo-spirituality. And Baptiste claims he can make a yoga teacher out of you in just eight days, at his "boot camp" in the Yucatan.

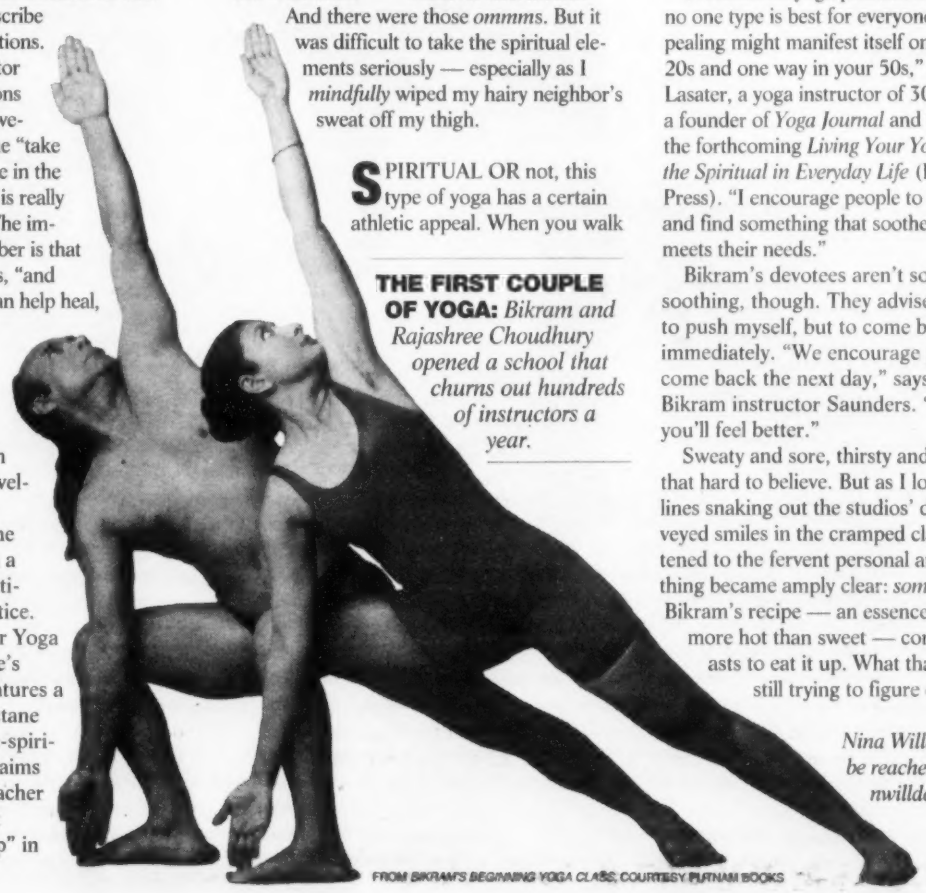
At a recent class at the Porter Square studio, a crew of hyper-fit, Patagonia-clad twenty- and thirtysomething beautiful people began lining up in the stairwell a half-hour before class. A few minutes before 11 a.m., we raced into the humid, unbearably hot room to the pumping tunes of Van Morrison and ethno-techno. By the time everyone had claimed a spot, there was less than a foot separating each half-clad person from his or her neighbor. At one point during the 90-minute session, our intimidatingly beefy instructor, Rolf — rumored to have been a drill instructor before his yoga days — yelled at us to "awaken our souls." He ordered us to belt out a series of full-throated, high-decibel *ommms*, and he laughed in glee as a woman let out an exhausted, defeated "Jesus!" Then he asked, "How do you want your abs: rare, medium, well-done?" In response, the 70 or so glistening people chanted, "Well-done, well-done!" I couldn't decide whether to laugh or be scared.

The Power Yoga class certainly tried to weave in some spirituality with the sweat. A Hopi Indian reading gave us a momentary rest from the grueling, fast-paced race through basic poses. We finished off with our hands in praying position, calling out a vigorous "*Namaste!*" — whatever that means.

And there were those *ommms*. But it was difficult to take the spiritual elements seriously — especially as I *mindfully* wiped my hairy neighbor's sweat off my thigh.

SPIRITUAL OR not, this type of yoga has a certain athletic appeal. When you walk out of class dripping, it's hard not to feel that you've *done* something. So it's not so surprising that the fitness-crazed folks at both Bikram's and Baptiste's classes look as if they'd be equally at home scaling a rock-climbing wall, mounting a bike in a Spinning class, or taking someone out in kickboxing. Radical yoga is the fitting next step for a population of people hungry for the newest extreme sport — and looking for a little spirituality while they're at it.

THE FIRST COUPLE OF YOGA: *Bikram and Rajashree Choudhury opened a school that churns out hundreds of instructors a year.*



FROM BIKRAM'S BEGINNING YOGA CLASS, COURTESY PUTNAM BOOKS

But many yoga insiders question whether these classes can even be classified as yoga. "It's a very *modern* take on yoga," sneers Wendy Green, a 30-year yoga veteran who teaches in New York and consults with corporations on how to bring yoga into the workplace. "It's the antithesis of yoga," she repeats a few times. "I would say that the workout should be the byproduct of yoga. I don't think you go to yoga for the workout."

Jones, the *Yoga Journal* editor, confirms that "a lot of people are coming to it as an adjunct to a fitness program." But he warns that "yoga is like any other challenging and demanding physical discipline.... Most people who have practiced power yoga for a long time have had injuries because they've pushed *over* instead of *to* the edge."

Professional yoga practitioners stress that no one type is best for everyone. "What's appealing might manifest itself one way in your 20s and one way in your 50s," says Judith Lasater, a yoga instructor of 30 years who is a founder of *Yoga Journal* and the author of the forthcoming *Living Your Yoga: Finding the Spiritual in Everyday Life* (Rodmell Press). "I encourage people to look around and find something that soothes them and meets their needs."

Bikram's devotees aren't so interested in soothing, though. They advise me not only to push myself, but to come back for more immediately. "We encourage people to come back the next day," says Boston Bikram instructor Saunders. "It's hard, but you'll feel better."

Sweaty and sore, thirsty and tired, I found that hard to believe. But as I looked at the lines snaking out the studios' doors, surveyed smiles in the cramped classes, and listened to the fervent personal anecdotes, one thing became amply clear: *something* in Bikram's recipe — an essence perhaps more hot than sweet — compels enthusiasts to eat it up. What that is, we're still trying to figure out. ■

Nina Willdorf can be reached at nwilldorf@phx.com.

In the face of racism, male violence, and celebrity infidelity, bell hooks still believes in the revolutionary power of love

RINGING endorsement

by Henry Santoro

THE *ATLANTIC MONTHLY* has called scholar bell hooks one of our country's leading public intellectuals, but lately her focus has been more emotional than cerebral. An author of more than 20 books, a cultural critic, and a feminist theorist, hooks (who doesn't capitalize her name because she wants to emphasize her words and not herself) has now set her sights on changing the way we think about love. Her 2000 book *All About Love,* now out in paperback from HarperPerennial, was a national bestseller that offered simple and practical strategies for change. Now hooks has written a more tightly focused — and personal — follow-up, *Salvation: Black People and Love* (William Morrow, 2001). In it, she draws extensively from her own life experiences. Born in Kentucky, into a family of six girls and one boy, she left the South to attend Stanford and UC Santa Cruz, where she wrote her dissertation on Toni Morrison.

Now a Distinguished Professor of English at City College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, hooks lives in Greenwich Village (her well-appointed home was featured in the *New York Times*) and Tampa, Florida, where she's renovating a 1920s bungalow. The *Phoenix* spoke with hooks when she was in Boston recently promoting her new book.

Q: *Did you stumble upon* Salvation: Black People and Love *while you were writing* All About Love*?*

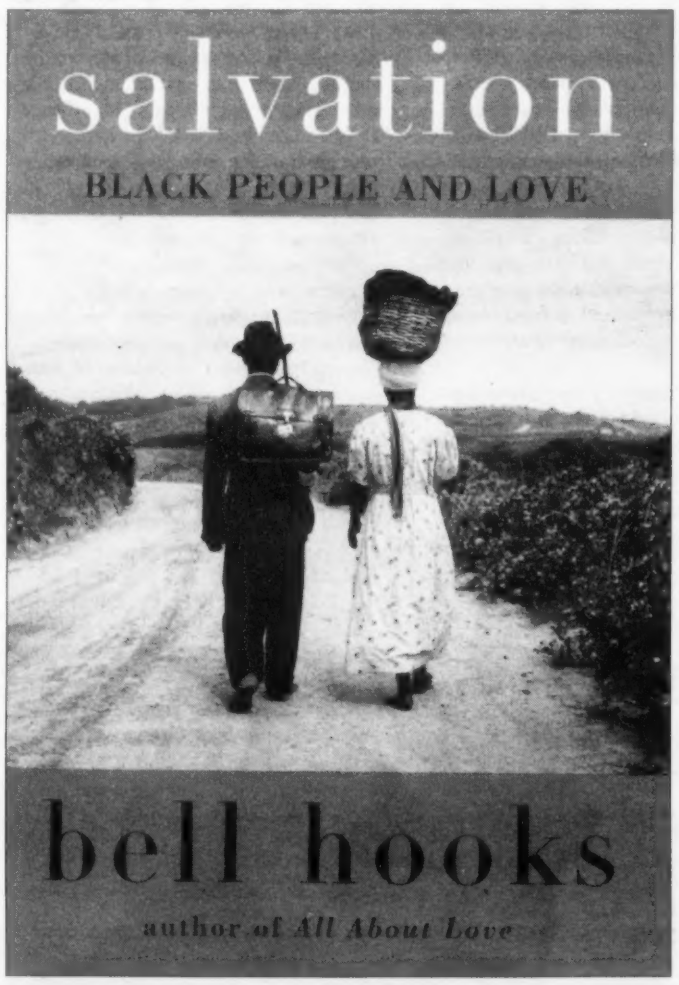
A: I can tell you the precise moment. I was in Flint, Michigan, talking about *All About Love* to fifth-graders, and all of these young black kids were telling me, "Well, there's no such thing as love." And I found that to be so sad, so disheartening. It was really like an arrow to my heart, in the opposite way of Cupid. I just thought, how could you feel life had any meaning whatsoever if you didn't feel that there was love?

Q: *I tend to categorize these kids as the MTV generation, parked in front of the TV, not getting the nourishment that they need.*

A: As a nation, we're moving away from a focus on love. We focus on material stuff as the only thing that matters, and these children believe that happiness and joy will come from material things, and not from substantive values in one's life, like love. In *Salvation*, I talk about how there's a big difference between the music of an Otis Redding, saying "This is my lover's prayer, I hope it reaches out to you," or my favorite, Jackie Wilson, "Your love has lifted me higher." Here you had black men singing about the weariness of being a black man, a working-class black man in this sort of classist, racist culture. But the kind of new music you have — Dr. Dre or R. Kelly or somebody saying about a woman, "You remind me of my Jeep" — I mean, that's a totally different sense of valuation. It's that whole sense that it isn't about love, it's about material exchange. I saw the tide turning with Tina Turner's big hit a few years ago, "What's Love Got To Do with It?", and there's a song that came after that, [Janet Jackson's] "What Have You Done for Me Lately?"

If you came to my kitchen, I have images of Louis Armstrong all over the place and people say to me, "What is it about Louis Armstrong?" I [say], "This is a man who really loved women." He loved his mother and he loved the women in his life.

And we have people like John Coltrane, who we know for many years had a very anguished personal life and struggled with addiction before he came to wonderful things like *A Love Supreme*. Which again, let's contrast *A Love Supreme* against some of the kind of horrible gangsta-rap stuff. I mean for this black man to be able to say, "I've gone through so much, and what I've come to is a realization about the importance of love.



LOVE STORY: *hooks's latest book is a more personal revisiting of the topics she addressed in* All About Love.

Q: *On the flip side of that is your conversation with rapper Lil' Kim.*

A: She said to me, "What's love? I've not known any love." I worship at the throne of Otis Redding and I really worship at the throne of Aretha Franklin. And I think that when we read the biographies of women singers, of Etta James, whose music I love, black women singers, we hear tragic stories of incest and abandonment.

But music like Aretha's — there's this one song where she says, "If you can't trust anybody's love in this world, trust mine" — that's the kind of music that I think brought a pedagogy of love into popular discourse and into our lives. It's not that I don't appreciate some forms of rap — I do — but I'm concerned that children not just be raised with rap music as the quintessential expression of black popular culture, because Aretha Franklin's music, especially those years of writing those passionate ballets — it's eternal music. You know, that music that really gets at the heart of our emotional universe, what we long for.

Q: *It seems that* Salvation *can be broken down into two perspectives, two categories of how love is looked at: historical and cultural.*

A: Absolutely. I think people don't realize that historically, one of the big pro-slavery arguments was that black people were not capable of complex emotionality, and as a consequence we were seen as not capable of love. And if people do their research they'll know that there were lots of discussions among black writers as late as the '60s and early '70s, wondering whether we have been so dehumanized by white supremacy and racism that we are not able to love. The theme of "where's the place of love in our life?" comes up again as black people struggle.

I think [that for] any group of people of color in our nation, who are trying to make it economically — it could equally be said of Jews, at the moment when Jewish immigrants first came to this country — the emphasis is on survival, how will you become a success. But what happens to your emotional well-being and your emotional life?

Q: *Reading the introduction to* Salvation*, it seems that there was strong love between your grandparents, but not such strong love in your immediate family.*

A: My maternal grandparents, Bay-Bay and Daddy Guss, were these people who were married for 75 years, and they fashioned, like any wonderful love relationship, a relationship that was about who they were. My parents, who will have been together 50 years come a few more months, have not fashioned a mutually satisfying bond together. So in a way, I saw both types of marriages, because we all know that longevity where there is unhappiness does not mean much. But when you are able to see people stay together through the ups and downs of life, and create sustained bonds, that's a very powerful thing, and that's what I witnessed. I wanted what I saw my grandparents having.

Q: *It almost seems that that's what we are witnessing right now with Jesse Jackson and his family, in the wake of his disclosure that he had a child outside of his marriage.*

A: One of the things that is to me most boring and sad about the case with Jesse Jackson, as was the case with Clinton and the whole Lewinsky thing, is people who are not willing to come out and tell the truth about the fact that a lot of long-term marriages have become places where people say, particularly for the man, "You can go out and have a partner, you can have a sexual affair." Instead we have to act like we're back in Puritan times and the man is saying "I'm guilty, I'm guilty, please forgive me," rather that saying, in fact, "I have an agreement with my wife and she maybe knows about this." So there can be a different sense of how you negotiate a relationship.

See **HOOKS,** *page 32*

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HOOKS, *from page 30*

When this story broke we didn't have a sense of ... I mean, Jesse Jackson was like an adolescent, just as Clinton was; somehow these men are still being led by the penis. It's just such a boring, old-fashioned, horrible sense of masculinity that men are not capable of making loving decisions about what they do with their bodies. And I think this is a constant in the chapter in *Salvation* on loving black masculinity: one of things I think we have to do is stop thinking about men as children who somehow are not capable of being in touch with their emotions. If we have created a society — and I think patriarchy has to a certain extent — where men don't know what they feel and don't know how to cope with their sexualities, then it's time for us to change it. But we can't keep acting like somehow men are so stupid that this is just what a man's gonna do and then he can stand up and say, "Oh, I'm so sorry," as Clinton did and now Jesse Jackson. How about a man who stands up and says, "This is what I'll take responsibility for in my life"?

Q: *How do we ensure that kids have access to the kind of love that can give them healthy self-esteem?*

A: We have to put love on the agenda. Notice that Jesse Jackson didn't immediately say, "I love this young woman" — so we thought maybe it was all about sex. Now of course we know, if you've done any research about it, that he's had a relationship with her. It's obviously more than something that's about sex. But love doesn't get talked about. In the Million Man March, for example, where there was this whole theme of atonement, there was no discussion of love. So I think that partially we do it by putting love on our agenda as something that is political.

Q: *But guys are too macho to talk about love ...*

A: The men, I think, who are our heroes are often people we never hear about. They're not the men in the public sphere, but there are individual men everywhere in our nation who are saying, "I will no longer live a loveless life, and I will not allow my children to go without the love of their father." There's a big thing in this book about father love, because I think that in our nation as a whole, there's been a tendency to feel like fathers are not important. Especially now, with so many female celebrities choosing to have babies without fathers. The truth is, most children, whether they're raised by two lesbian parents or a heterosexual single mom, want to know who their father is — it has an impact on their psyche. It doesn't mean that if the father's absent, a kid won't be loved and healthy, but they certainly want to have a sense of what the place of father love in their lives is. What's the place of having love from a man?

I think about my own self, raised by a very harsh and punitive dad, and then the joy that came into my life with the tenderness of my grandfather. In my autobiography I said of my grandfather, "His smells fill my nostrils with the scent of happiness. With him all the broken bits and pieces of my heart come together again." And I don't think that I could love men today and trust in men today had it not been for that unconditional love that came to me from my grandfather.

PUBLIC INTELLECTUAL: *the versatile hooks has written on topics ranging from feminism to race to the craft of writing itself.*

"There were lots of discussions among black writers wondering whether we have been so dehumanized by white supremacy and racism that we are not able to love. The theme of 'where's the place of love in our life?' comes up again as black people struggle."

Q: *What about the stereotype of the little tough guy?*

A: It's really, really sad. I'm writing a series a series of books with Disney-Hyperion for boys, because I think that another aspect of boys that we don't respect is we don't teach boys how to be still, how to deal with difficult emotionalities. You know what happens to the boy in our society, and until we really come to grips with that, I don't think we'll come to grips with male violence. I don't think we'll come to grips with male hatred of women until we begin to say boys need love. We have all the marvelous new feminist research that's telling us it's been harmful to adolescent boys to let them drift into antisocial behavior. What has been wrong for some time is our cultural neglect of adolescent boys — our cultural sense that somehow they don't need love. And it's okay to let them stare at a computer and play games all day long or watch some violent films all day long, rather than teaching them connectedness.

Until we heal it, there can be no real love. Love is our hope and our salvation, and I think that when we have the revolution of love, a lot of our social ills will go away. ■

Henry Santoro can be reached at hsantoro@phx.com.

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PROFESSIONAL • GENERAL • RETAIL • SALES • HOTEL, RESTAURANT, ENTERTAINMENT

These and other listings are updated weekly at **www.bostonphoenix.com**... To advertise, call 617.859.3211

General Opportunities

HELP WANTED

BUSINESS OPPS

CLAIMS PROCESSOR $20-$40/hr potential. Processing claims is easy! Training provided. MUST own PC. CALL NOW! 1-888-518-7534 ext 858. (AAN CAN)

DATA ENTRY
$20-$40/hr potential. Need self-starters who require no supervision. Set own hours. Computer w/modem required. Please call 1-888-310-2153. ext 867. (AAN CAN)

Earn up to $25,000 to $50,000/year. Medical Insurance Billing Assistance Needed Immediately! Use your home computer, get FREE internet, FREE long distance. 1-800-291-4683 dept 190. (AAN CAN)

Growing business needs help! Work from home. Mail-order/E-commerce. Earn up to $522+/week PT $1,100-$4,000/week FT. CreateYourRainbow.com. (800) 964-6865.

EDUCATIONAL OPPS.

Teachers needed for year-round wilderness camps. Excellent opportunity/salary/benefits. Must enjoy being outdoors and helping at-risk youth. State certification or certificate eligibility required. More info/apply on-line at www.eckerd.org or mail resume to Selection Specialist/AN, Eckerd Youth Alternatives, P.O. Box 7450, Clearwater, FL, 33758. EOE.

GENERAL EMPLOYMENT OPPS

$1,500 a month PT and $4,500-$7,200 FT. Work In Home. International company needs Supervisors and Assistants. Training. Free Booklet: 800-311-7027/AgreatNewLife.com

$Great Pay$
Female Masseuse Wanted. No exp necc. Will train. Great opportunity for students. Call for details 617-625-5999

Art Gallery seeks FT **Art Handler.** BA req'd to assist w/installations/exhibitions, gen. gallery maint. AW packaging & shipping. Must be flexible & organized. Valid driver's license req'd. Fax resume (617) 424-9759

ARTIST MODEL
Need female models with proportionate bodies for private drawing sessions. No exp required. $60 per 3 hour session. Brief interview required. 617-787-0851.

Attention: Work from Home!
Mail order business. Need help immediately. $522+/wk P/T $1000-$4000+/wk F/T. Full training. Free booklet. www.proudtobefree.com 800-553-2405

ATTENTION: WORK FROM HOME
$1,500 month P/T; $4,500-$7,200 F/T. Free booklet: 1-800-824-0874 www.StriveToSucceed.com

Be The Life Of The Party!
Most fun, well-paid job you will ever have. High energy people to DJ at special events. Exp preferred, but will train right folks. Love being the center of attention? Call
617-536-1474

GROWING BUSINESS NEEDS HELP!
Work from home. Mail-order/E-Commerce. $522+/week PT. $1000-$4000/wk FT www.DreamLifeReality.com (800)563-9548

EARN EXTRA $$$
$12,000-$60,000 per year part-time. Free training. 401-846-7562. See www.mypc2work.com. Code # 10325.

Fashion!
Music, Fortune, Fame, Youth Culture Lifestyles.
Allston Beat Management
Postions Available. Exp. Nec.
Phone: 617-421-1222 or fax resume 617-421-1515

FEMALE MASSEUSE WANTED
Do you want a job that offers great $$ with a flexible schedule? F/T w/health insurance or P/T position avl. No professional exp. nec. Will train. Call Avi
(617)594-6333

GROWING BUSINESS NEEDS HELP!
Work from home. Mail-order/E-Commerce. $522+/week PT. $1000-$4000/week FT. www.a-new-horizen.com 1-800-345-1210.

GROWING BUSINESS NEEDS HELP!
Work from home. Mail-order/E-Commerce. $522+ per week PT. $1,000-$4,000 per week FT. www.freedomcareer.com. 1-800-335-8856.

Growing Business Needs Help!
Work from home. Mail-order/E-Commerce. $522+/week PT. $1000-$4000/week FT. www.BettrLivn.com. (800)353-4835.

GROWING COMPANY NEEDS HELP
Work from home. $450-$5000 PT/FT. Month free booklet. 412-886-1102 www.embraceyourfuture.com

HOME WORKERS NEEDED
$635 weekly processing mail. Easy! No experience needed. Call 1-800-652-8726 Ext 2015 24Hrs.

Need Bookkeeper ASAP NPRFT
Progressive film prod co 2 days per week. Flex. 617-864-5625, email-intlock@ix.netcom.com fax-617-864-2066 (Attn: Sarah)

POSTAL JOBS $9-14.27/HR
+Federal Benefits
No Experience. Exam Info Call 1-800-391-5856 x3238 8am-9pm/Local not guar.

You'll have to start getting up before 7.

A.M.

NEXTEMPS.com PEOPLEWORK

Temporary jobs. Full time convenience

Nextemps.com is the world's first online temporary employment agency. All Employee registration takes place online and available assignments are shown in the virtual office. Enjoy the convenience of Nextemps.com from the comfort of home or office.

SPOKES-MODELS
Represent the liquor/beverage industry. Energetic, outgoing, responsible, dependable car, sales exp helpful. Immediate, flexible. PT. Contact: April Donnellan, Stars Promotions, Inc. 781-545-7008 starspromotions@aol.com

SUMMER DAY CAMP
Directors, instructors, and counsellors: woodworking, aquatics, archery, arts and crafts, drama, sports, Project Adventure, tennis, sailing, nature. Salary range $2000-$4000.
(978)369-4095

TALENT the agency
is seeking M/F all ages for promotional, TV, film, commercial, fashion & theatrical wk. Many jobs available now! $17-150 per hour. For evaluation call new faces depart.
617-542-3277

The Oregonian
seeks an experienced critic/reporter who can cover two of the following beats: theater, dance, visual arts. We emphasize fresh approaches to features, criticism and explanatory stories that interest general readers. Sharp reporting skills a must. Pop culture knowledge a plus. Apply by Feb. 28 to George Rede, Recruiting Director, 1320 SW Broadway, Portland, OR 97201

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY Energetic Student/Anyone
No dress code! No 9-5! No exp. necessary! Great Pay plus benefits!
To assist disabled woman call
617-731-6228

WILDERNESS CAMP COUNSELOR
Sleep under the stars. Hike the Appalachian Trail. Canoe the Suwanee. Help at-risk youth. Free room/board. Clothing allowance. Excellent salary/benefits. Details and application: www.eckerd.org. Send resumes:
Selection Specialist/AN,Eckerd Youth Alternatives, PO Box 7450, Clearwater, FL 33758 EOE (AAN CAN)

WILDLIFE JOBS $8-19/HR
+ Federal Benefits
Park Rangers, Security, & Maintenance. No experience for some. For info: Call 1-800-391-5856 x3239 8am-9pm/Local not guar.

Work at Home
$1200 to $9800 per month
800-532-6129
Paid vacations

Work From Home
$1,500 month p/t; $4,500-$7,200 f/t Free booklet: 1-800-366-2015. www.Afford-ToQuit.com

HOTELS/ RESTAURANTS/ ENTERTAINMENT

GIRLS WANTED
EARN UP TO $800+/wk. Must be 18+. Flex hrs/No exp nec. call Alex
617-427-6514

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!!! Aegean Restaurant
New location in Watertown now hiring for all positions. Mon-Fri 11:00am-5:00pm. 640 Arsenol Street or call Chris at:
508-596-9771

Restaurant
The Time is Now! Cosi Coffee, Sandwiches & Bar is here!
Unique opportunities for innovative & experienced individuals to enjoy a superb atmosphere! We are seeking:
Sandwich Makers, Cashiers & Catering Staff
for our Boston store location. Apply in person at State St. store 53 State St. Mon-Fri after 2pm.
NO WEEKENDS NO NIGHTS!
our benefits include excelent starting wage, stock options, tuition reimbersement, flexible schedules, health insurance, 401K with match, meal discounts. eoe.

HOSPITALITY

Spirit Cruises Auditions

Looking for great exposure with a regular salary? Spirit Cruises and Paramount Productions is seeking dancers/singers for their upcoming season. You must be able to sing, dance, and entertain with theatrical flair. Seasonal and year-round positions available. Full-time summer contract pay starting at $450.00 per week. What could be better than being in Boston, making great pay, and working for a great company all at the same time?

THE COMPANY

Nation's largest dining/entertainment harbor cruise company offers 2-3 hour lunch and dinner cruises with live entertainment, full bars and a delicious buffet. The Spirit of Boston has been sailing the Boston Harbor for 15 years and stands above the competition as the most fun cruise available in the area.

AUDITIONS

Please prepare 16 bars of an uptempo and a ballad. Bring sheet music. An accompanist will be provided. Come dressed to dance. You will be learning a dance combination. No appointments necessary. Please bring headshot and resume if possible. Rehearsals start in April. Need to be flexible. This is a full-time position.

Wednesday, Feb. 28 @ the ship **Spirit of Boston** docked next to the World Trade Center on Northern Ave. From 4-8 p.m.
*Males are encouraged to attend.

For additional information, call our Entertainment Manager, Liz Burke @ (617) 748-1499.

SPIRIT OF BOSTON HARBOR CRUISES

ARTS DIRECTOR

The Lowell Office of Cultural Affairs, a private NPO, seeks Executive Director. Responsibilities include arts administration, grant writing, and advocacy for local artists and cultural institutions. Send letter of interest, resume and salary requirements by March 2 to: LOCA Search Committee, 9 Central St., Suite 202, Lowell, MA 01852.

Lowell Office of Cultural Affairs/LOCA

AVON
Looking for higher income? More flexible hours? Independence? AVON has what you're looking for. Let's talk.
888-561-2866

SALES OPPS.

Sales Demonstrator
Promote Nutro Pet Food in local stores. Saturday and/or Sunday, 4hrs per day. Must commit to 4 days per month. Person must be dog/cat compatible, outgoing, articulate. $10.00 per hour. 800-647-4648 x309

Sales Professionals

YOU HAVE GREAT POTENTIAL. INVEST IT WISELY.

With the opening of new retail branch offices, and expansion of others throughout the country, it's time to consider a career with Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. Once you have qualifed for and completed our paid Financial Advisor Training Program, your income and advancement potential are limited only by your ability. We'll prepare you for the Series 7 license exam. Provide you with ongoing training in support of your goals.

Opportunities are available in the Boston Back Bay retail branch office.

Career Night
Please call for more information on upcoming career nights!
Location:
3 Copley Place Suite 100

To reserve your place, please contact Carl Chaput at: 617-578-9310

Morgan Stanley Dean Witter is an equal opportunity employer

MORGAN STANLEY DEAN WITTER

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3 x 5 math POWER

Mathematics Coach

Work with exciting university-based math ed reform project, furnishing professional development for teachers in urban middle schools.

- Provide coaching and demonstration lessons for teachers
- Provide reflection and planning workshops, etc.

Must have extensive math teaching experience.
Generous salary and benefits.
Fax resume and cover letter to: (617) 373-7575 or
Write to MathPower, at Northeastern University, 50 NI, Boston, MA 02115
email: riversjacqueline@hotmail.com

Paid Volunteers
Healthy Men Ages 21-35
Alcohol Study
2 Consecutive Days
$300
Blood Sampling
Taxi Provided
617-855-2969
Boston Area Only

NATIONAL EVENT MARKETING COMPANY

seeking outgoing, wellgroomed responsible spokesmodels for wine & spirit brand promotions in establishments at/near local ski resorts. Must be 21 or over. Flexible hours. Pay $25/hr! EOE. Call 877-750-4476 for more information.

MOTORCYCLE SALES

Come work with us in the Powersports industry. We can offer a fulfilling, rewarding and high earning career in sales. No experience needed - immediate openings

- $1000 signing bonus
- Generous commissions
- Paid Training
- Paid Vacation
- Full medical & Dental
- 401K plan
- Demo

Call a location near you today!
Arlington - 781-648-1300 ask for Rob
Beverly - 800-464-2925 ask for Luis
Everett - 617-389-7000 ask for Tony

OYSTERS AREN'T FOR EVERYONE. NEITHER ARE OUR JOBS

The *difference* is YOU - with superior skills, experience, and intelligence...
The *difference* is our clients - premier companies and institutions...
The *difference* is top pay rates, comprehensive benefits and over 30 years of experience...
The *difference* is our lack of attitude.

TEMPORARY * TEMP-TO-HIRE * PERMANENT

Word Processors (60 wpm)
Desktop Publishing
Legal & Medical Secretaries
Data Entry
Executive Secretaries
Administrators
Receptionists
Super Non-Typist

THE SKILL BUREAU
129 Tremont Street • Boston, MA 02108
617-423-2986
www.skillbureau.com

THINKING JOBS FOR THINKING PEOPLE

ProfessionalOpportunities

Media Opportunities

PHOENIX

RECEPTIONIST
The Boston Phoenix, has a dynamic opportunity for a detail-oriented and self-motivated individual to handle reception duties and provide administrative support to various departments as needed. This entry-level position requires excellent communication and organization skills. This is an awesome opportunity for an individual who loves the Phoenix and WFNX and is eager to begin a career in communications at one of Boston's most alternative companies. The position provides a transfer to another position after 6 months.

TRAFFIC COORDINATOR
We have an exciting entry-level opportunity available for a well organized and detailed oriented individual to work in our fast paced traffic department. We need an assertive person to take charge of billing and layout. Will provide opportunity for growth.

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Entry-level position assisting managing editor in overseeing day-to-day operations of editorial department. Basic clerical skills, knowledge of office computer systems, and interest in journalism required. Opportunities for writing and professional growth. Familiarity with database software a plus.

DESKTOP ANALYST
We seek a skilled individual with good communication and customer service skills with at least 2 years of hands-on PC and general TCP/IP based networking experience in a large scale Corporate IT environment, installing, configuring, maintaining and troubleshooting desktop computers. Strong knowledge of Window's 95, 98 and NT operating systems and standard business and graphics applications e.g. Microsoft Office, Outlook, Internet Explorer, Quark, Illustrator, Photoshop. Mac experience a plus.

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY SALES MANAGER -THE BOSTON PHOENIX
The Boston Phoenix, New England's largest weekly newspaper has an exciting opportunity for an experienced sales manager. The position reports directly to the General Sales Manager. Ideal candidates for the position will possess at least 3 years of Sales Management experience, a proven track record in new business development, as well as staff training and development. Media sales experience a plus but not required. We're willing to train the right person .

ENTRY-LEVEL SALES REP
The Boston Phoenix seeks a Classified Advertising Lines Ad Taker who will be responsible for the placement of all inbound Classified Lines sales in addition to gaining exposure to outside sales. Qualified candidates will have excellent customer service skills and a strong desire to break into the lucrative field of media sales at one of Boston's most alternative companies.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
The Boston, Providence, Portland and Worcester Phoenix's have exciting opportunities available for dynamic and creative individuals with strong presentation and sales skills to join our sales force. To qualify you must have a minimum of 1 year proven track record in outside sales and possess the ability to generate new business. Experience in print sales a plus.

CREDIT/COLLECTIONS REPRESENTATIVE
We have an immediate opening for an energetic and organized credit/collections professional with 1-3 years of exp. to manage a full portfolio, process credit/debit adj. and cash applications, review all billing for credit approval as well as provide follow-up and account maintenance. Excellent benefits and growth potential available.

STAFF ACCOUNTANT
We seek a skilled professional with 3+ years of general accounting experience. Will be responsible for the full accounting cycle including financial statement preparation, balance sheet reconciliations, cash planning, and tax projections. Must have knowledge of accounting systems and have a BS in accounting.

PEOPLE2PEOPLE GROUP

CALL CENTER REPRESENTATIVES
Immediate openings in our fast-paced call center for full-time and part-time customer service reps to assist customers placing personal ads in newspapers nationwide. Previous call center or customer service exp. preferred. **Bilingual Spanish skills a plus.**

PAGINATOR
Tele-Publishing International, a division of The Phoenix Media Communications Group, is seeking an entry-level graphic artist for our Production Department. A strong knowledge of QuarkXpress is a must, knowledge of Photoshop and Acrobat a plus. The right candidate will thrive in a fast paced environment and have excellent time management skills. This is the perfect position for someone starting in Graphic Design and Media.

STUFF MEDIA GROUP

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Do you live the Lifestyle? If so then we have an opportunity for you! we are looking for a real go-getter to pound the pavement. Someone who thrives on the challenge to generate new business. We seek an Account Executive with 2-3 years of media sales experience to join our expanding sales department. Knowledge of the boston area and local nightlife a must.

FNX RADIO NETWORK

*With the creation of the **FNX Radio Network**, we are currently seeking individuals to help us expand the independent spirit of Boston's Real Alternative radio into new markets in Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. The FNX Network is poised to become a new force in broadcasting, simulcasting the unique alternative format throughout New England.*

NATIONAL SALES DIRECTOR
FNX is currently seeking a National Sales Manager to join our sales team. Qualified applicants will have excellent written and verbal and presentation skills, excellent organizational and time management skills, have a "can do" attitude, and a minimum of four years in agency and direct sales. Will be responsible for overall National Sales quotas which includes coordination of national sales operations with our rep firm. Some travel required

ENGINEER
FNX seeks a qualified person for a newly created position. Candidates must have solid experience in all technical areas of the operation, including equipment installation, studio and transmitter maintenance, digital audio, automation, computer and networking. Strong RF experience preferred. Will assist Chief Engineer with all technical aspects of network operation. Service and maintain transmitters and studios at multiple locations. Assist promotions and programming department's remote broadcasts. On call for technical problems, some travel required.

STAFF ACCOUNTANT
We seek a skilled professional with 3+ years of general accounting experience. Will be responsible for the full accounting cycle including financial statement preparation, balance sheet reconciliations, cash planning, and tax projections. Must have knowledge of accounting systems and have a BS in accounting.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE 101.7 FNX-BOSTON AREA
Be part of a company whose product you are passionate about. FNX is expanding our outside sales force. Successful candidates will be responsible for handling and developing an established list of agency and retail advertising accounts as well as generating new business. Minimum 1 year outside sales experience required. Excellent opportunity for career-minded sales executives who desire a unique and exciting work environment with tremendous income potential!

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE 92.1 FNX-PORTLAND AREA
FNX is THE Alternative in Portland, and if you share that kind of attitude, you might be right for us. We're looking for an energetic and enthusiastic individuals who walk our walk and talk our talk. If you think you have the right stuff, let us know. Experience in developing and nurturing a solid client base is a big plus, a minimum of 1 year of outside sales, but most of all we're looking for someone who fits with our indie vibe and is willing to work hard with our sales team.

MASS WEB PRINTING

***Mass Web Printing** company, located in Auburn MA, is Central Massachusetts' leading provider of quality web printing*

PRESS HELPERS
1st and 3rd Shift-Full Time, 7A.M. - 3P.M. and 11P.M. – 7A.M., M – F Will assist in the operation of web printing equipment. Experience helpful, but not necessary.

Fax, mail or email resume with salary requirement to:
Human Resources
PMCG
126 Brookline Avenue
Boston, MA 02215
Fax: (617) 425-2615
jobs@phx.com
eoe

Phoenix
MEDIA/COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Help wanted at Grand Opening!
Sales & Office Staff
Join the most unique store in Boston!
Grand Opening! -the Boston area's best sex toy store - seeks sales help + p.t. office staff. Experience a must!
Drop by in person
318 Harvard St.,
Suite 32, Arcade Bldg.,
Coolidge Corner, Brookline.
Or email office@grandopening.com
No phone calls, please.

$GREAT$ PAY
FEMALE MASSEUSE WANTED
No experience necessary will train
great opportunity for students
call for details
617-625-5999

PART-TIME/ SEASONAL OPPS.

P/T-Weekends only

Fun, fast paced & hard work. Market research for major Hollywood pictures. Survey the public in person locally for opinions on the film industry. Strong communication and presentation skills a must. Steady work, excellent compensation. 617-338-6390/visit www.ani-research.com

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VITAL Computer Services
A Personnel Group of America Company

Vital Computer Services
is the leader in *Technology Placement*
(perm & contract) for the New York, New Jersey, Connecticut areas... major banks, brokerage companies and insurance cos turn to us for staffing in the following categories:

Manager of Applications Development & Distributed Services
oracle, sybase, unix, java, c, c++ environments - salary to $150k

Project Managers - for data warehousing, database design, development
oracle, sybase, unix environments - salary to $125k

Application Engineers& Programmers - java, cobra IDL,
middleware environments - salary to $100K

Internet Systems Engineers - for support and implementation to
configure web servers, application servers, internet security, firewalls, i-net service, physical/locical layering - salary to $125K

Web Developers - salary to $125K

Java Developers - salary to $125K

Unix Systems Adminstrators - salary to $100K

Oracle Financials - express, ofa team leader - salary to $125K

Quant Programmer - for prestigious int'l investment bank - salary to $150K

Brokerage Trading Application Developers - unix java,
c++ environment salary to $125K

Banking Applications Programmers & Developers
visual basic/sql server or sybase environment - salary to $100K

Lotus Notes Developers
many positions all levels

Many more, too numerous to display are yours for the next move in your career path. All positions require a minimum of permanent residence status and unfortunately relocation cannot be financially supported (in most cases).

For a discussion as to the position best for you. please respond with resume to: Peter Cooper EMAIL: perm@vital-computer.com ...or call 212-763-6940

THE Phoenix classifieds directory

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place your ad:

by phone:
617-859-3300 (lines)
617-859-3388 (display)

for web advertising:
call either of the above

by e-mail:
classifieds@phx.com

by mail:
Phoenix Classifieds;
328 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02115

in person:
The Phoenix Classifieds Office
328 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02115
(between Mass Ave. & Hereford streets)
Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 6 PM

by fax:
617-425-2670

classified advertising line rates:

4 line minimum except where noted

category:	1x	4x	13x	26x	52x
frequency discounts					
Help Wanted	$8.00	7.20	6.80	6.40	6.00
Real Estate	5.00	4.50	4.25	4.00	3.75
Services	5.00	4.50	4.25	4.00	3.75
Mind, Body & Spirit (except Healing Bodywork)	5.00	4.50	4.25	4.00	3.75
Healing Bodywork	8.00	7.20	6.80	6.40	6.00
Music, Theater & Arts (except Gigs)	5.00	4.50	4.25	4.00	3.75
Guaranteed Gigs	99.00 guaranteed! 4 lines plus 1 bold headline for up to 1 year. Must renew every 4 weeks.				
For Sale (3 line minimum)	3.00	2.70	2.55	2.40	2.25
extras:					
Bold Line (extra per line)	5.00	4.50	4.25	4.00	3.75
Extra Bold Line (extra per line)	7.00	6.30	5.95	5.60	5.25
Highlight Your Ad (extra per ad)	20.00	18.00	17.00	16.00	15.00

The deadline for Classified Line Ads is Tuesday at 12 Noon. All changes, cancellations, and renewals are due Monday at 12 Noon.

Classified Advertising Policies: Guaranteed Gigs: The Boston Phoenix reserves the right to reject or edit any advertisement. Purchase a Guaranteed Gig advertisement for one week in advance and we will keep running the same ad for up to one year from the original date of insertion. You must call 617-859-3300 every four weeks to renew your ad. Absolutely no changes are allowed to a Guaranteed ad.

Copy regulations: The forwarding of an ad is construed as an acceptance of all the rates and conditions under which advertising space is at the time sold by the Phoenix. The Boston Phoenix reserves the right to: revise copy containing objectionable words or phrases; to reject, in its sole discretion, any advertisements on account of its text or illustrations; to determine correct category placement. There is a one month minimum on all commercial real estate ads. Cancellations and changes on commercial advertisements: there are no refunds for cancelled ads. Advertising space credit will be issued for ads cancelled before 12 Noon on Mondays.

Cancellations and changes on guaranteed advertisements: There are no changes allowed or refunds granted for guaranteed advertisements. Claims for errors and omissions: The Boston Phoenix accepts no liability for its failures, for any reason, to print an advertisement, and shall be under no liability whatsoever for any error for which it may be responsible beyond liability to give the advertiser credit for so much of the linage occupied by the advertisement as is materially affected by the error, provided that the Phoenix is notified by the advertiser of such error in an advertisement within seven days of publication.

realestate

real estate guaranteed roommates

To place your own Roommates ad call (617)859-3300

NEWTONVILLE: Prof male seeks M/F for sunny 2 br. Close to T/Comm Rail. $500/mo incl heat/utils. 1st/last req. Avail Feb 1. Call Robert 617-964-4815.

BOSTON'S MOST EFFICIENT Roommate Service INSTANT ONLINE RESULTS! FREE TO SEARCH & LIST Contact Us @ www.EasyRoommate.com 1-800-877-2557

Agonizing Over Rent?
Find a Roommate Online!
Customized Matching
All areas. Ads w/pics. Chat.
Daily Emails. More!
www.RoommateAccess.com
Toll Free: 1-866-823-2200

ACTON: Worcester GM couple seeks M or F housemates. Call Eric 978-263-9427,Fax 207-866-4827 Mention ad.

ARLINGTON: Person, 25-45 yrs, to share sunny 2 bedroom. $595 +utils. Call Jana or Chris 781-643-9924.

Back Bay: Share a 2BR 1BA w Berklee student. $825/mo ht/hot water incl. 1st, last, $100 fee. 617-267-4597

Beacon Hill: Prof SWM sks same pref age 22-29 to shr spacious, nice 2 bdrm apt w/reforn kitc, hdwd flrs. $950. Avail now. 877-687-1765.

BEAUTIFUL APARTMENT, GREAT LOCATION
ARLINGTON: F sks M/F, N/S, 22-40, grad stud or prof for 2br Pkg, close to bus. Avail immed. $725/mo, last req. 781-646-2716

BELMONT: Avl 3/1. M/F, 30's+, N/S, to shr sunny 2BR apt. Fireplace, hdwd flrs, porches, prkg, W/D, cls to public trans. $450 +1/2. 617-489-9951.

BELMONT: N/S M/F 25-35 to share lrg 2br. hdwd flrs, w/d, lrg kitch, lr, dr, closed prch, sunroom, walk to T. $750+, Call 781-718-7907.

BOSTON FOR RENT
List Your Rentals Free
100s of Vacancies
(617)399-RENT (7368)
Free guest search at:
www.BostonForRent.com

BRIGHTON-3/1: Seeks M/F for 3rd floor in 4BR, Attic, 2RM +bath, nr 57/501. No pets/smoking. $660 +utils. Call Mike 617-787-6803.

Brighton-seeking M rmmate 25+ to shr independent, casual home in quiet neighborhood w/3F, 1 M & Lily the cat. On st pking, nr bus lines, no add. pets. Pref N/S. $400+ utils. Avail 3/1. Call 617-782-4285.

BRIGHTON/BROOKLINE: 1BR $370/mo. Buddhist practitioner looking for responsible, N/S vegetarian, 28-36. Leave message at 617-232-1684.

BRIGHTON: RM avail in 5BR house. 2 baths, hrdwd flrs, full kitchen, living rm, dining rm. 3flrs, w/d, dw. $640/mo. 617-782-9154.

BRIGHTON: Prof M seeks prof M/F to shr 2br. $525+ utils. on bus lines; first and sec dep. Avail now. Cat/smoker OK, 617-779-8715.

BRIGHTON: Large 4BR in Brighton. GM sks same. W/D, fireplace, 2 floors & basement. $600 +utils. Call Todd 617-254-8912.

BROOKLINE/COOLIDGE CNR/LONGWOOD AVE: Bedroom avail in nice apt. w/2 closets, modern kitch & bath, close to T. Hdwd flrs, W/D in bldg. $800 mo includes all utils 617-277-9661.

BROOKLINE/COOLIDGE CORNER: Lkng for straight prof to shr a beautiful, very lrg, 2500sf, 2 level duplex w/1M/1F. Unit is completely furn. Unit has been completely renov. Lower level has hdwd flrs thru-out w/tiled BA & kit, 3BR's, 2full BA, formal din rm, lrg lv rm, lrg eat-in kit (DW/disposal/gas stove) & 2decks. Upper level is 1 lrg rec. rm w/carpeting & 6skylites. Amenities inclu, A/C, W/D, off-st prkg, sat TV, cble, DSL. $1150 +1/3utils. Avail immediately! call Jim 617-277-2489.

BROOKLINE: 2F roommates needed to share 4br apt. $620 or $700, incl util. Pkg, lndry, no pets. N/S. Amy, 617-264-4510.

CAMBRIDGE
Air Conditioning. Private Entrance in a modern and clean apartment $650 available at www.easyroommate.com 1-800-877-2557

CAMBRIDGE: Rms avl, skg F for semi-furn, prv ent. $800, all rms inc. utils. W/D, lrg kit. rm w/cable, conv. to red/green T. Other rms $350-$650. 617-666-3646.

CAMBRIDGE: Sk 1M/F to share sunny 5rm, 2BR, w/ porch, w/d. Close to Harvard Sq. $850 inclu heat. Avail 01/15. No pets. Call 617-661-6284.

CAMBRIDGE: 1RM avail in 2BR apt. Seeking female roommate. $675/m balcony, laundry, fully decorated. 617-576-9333.

CAMBRIDGE: 1BD avail in 3BD ASAP. Prefer female. Prkg, DW/DS, W/D, huge, clean, no smoking, no pets. $633 +utils. Call 617-945-1875.

CHARLESTOWN- Prof M/F to shr lrg 3BR apt. Hdwd flrs, Mod kit, bckyrd patio, nr T, Great city views. $425. 781-749-2787

DORCHESTER/FIELDS CORNER: Share 3 BR w/ ocean view. $400/mo w/ utils, n/s or pets. Call 617-269-6718.

DORCHESTER: 25+, N/S, prof female w/ 2 cats (sorry no more pets) sks similar for room avail now in otherwise furnished 2BR apt. $650+ elec util. Lg rm. w/ huge closet. 1 block from red line, ample on-st. prkng. 617-265-0029.

DORCHESTER: M or F wanted for room in creative, musical household. $485 +utils. Avail April 1. Call 617-288-9527.

East Arlington: Sking prof for 1 bdrm in 2 bdrm apt, spacious, pking, W/D, dish, 5 min walk to Ale T, N/S, no drugs or pets. $525+ 617-256-6694

EAST SOMERVILLE: Room available in 3 bedroom house, near T. All utils, parking and laundry, $650. Call 617-623-9593.

HARVARD AREA: Spacious, sunny room with hdwd flrs avail for male Feb. 1 (or before). Share kitchen, bath. $600+ part of 1 util. Call John at 617-491-7614. Interviews are continuing.

HP: 2 GWM seek same N/S/drugs 3rd for 2 family, sunny hse. Hdwd flrs, w/d, Rail/bus/T, private st. $466/mo. 1st, last, sec. Avail 1/1. Call 617-901-3187.

HYDE PARK
GF sks GF/GM roommate to shr nice 2 bdrm newly renovated apt. $550+ utils. 617-905-8513.

HYDE PARK/MILTON: GWM only for Vict. home, nr T, huge yard, trees, garden. W/D. cable. Resp., clean. N/S/drugs. $335+. 617-361-3919.

Jamaica Plain: shr 2 bdrm w vegetarian F spacious, sunny, quiet, nr T, $600+ 3/1 or earlier. 617-524-8176 or j68r@hotmail.com

JAMAICA PLAIN
Prof fem w/2 cats sks prof fem to share gorgeous, lrg 2bdrm apt off Ctr St. Hdwd fl, frpl, porches & rfdeck, EIK, W/D, D/W, st. prkg. Nr pub, trans. N/S, no pets. $700/mo (ht & hw incl) +utils. Avl 3/1. 617-522-3518.

JAMAICA PLAIN: 1 prof GWM sks N/S GM for 1BR of 2BR house. D/W, nr T, prkg avl. $600 +utils. Avl now! Call 617-522-5551.

JAMAICA PLAIN
A great room is available in a sunny J.P. Apt. A mere 2 blocks from the orange line! We are looking for a woman to live with 2 guys, a girl and a Scottish terrier named Captain. Rent is $425 plus utils. N/S/more pets. The room is avl 3/1. Lv msg for Erica at work 781-381-3731.

JP: 1M/F to share 3BR apt nr arboretum & T. W/D, dw, hdwd flrs. N/S, Mature. $550+utils, rfrnc, sec. 617-522-4046

JP: Stonybrook area. Rm avail. in spac. apt. nr T. F/B porch. hdwd fl. w/d. Easy parking. $650+ util 617-522-8854.

Lower Allston-Brighton
GBM Grad stud sks clean, resp. GM, 25+, to share 3brm,1ba townhouse. Utl. included. Nr. Bus. $750/mo. (617)254-5373.

MANHATTAN: Do you travel bet Boston and N.Y.? Room avail in 2BR Chelsea apt. for PART-TIME ROOMMATE. $700/mo incl utils, refs & dep req, avail imm. Call 212-243-7279.

MEDFORD WEST: M/F, 30+, wrkg, non-smkr. Sunny rm in lrg, clean hse, great yard, prkg, bus, W/D, no pets, $350+. Call 781-483-7309.

MEDFORD: 1br avail in 2br apt. w/d, dw, prch, yrd. 1 mile to Davis Sq, half mile to Tufts. Quiet nghbrhd. $725+, 781-874-0446.

NEWTON 1BR: F seeks F, 30+, w/ quiet/calm lifestyle for small apt., no smk/pets, $450. Call 617-547-2632 verb9@hotmail.com

NORTH END: F grad stud sks F grad/prof, N/S to share 2br. Haymarket T. $750 + utils. Avail Feb 1. 617-722-4339 or jnhill@bu.edu

NORWOOD: Prof M to share 2 BR condo. $600/mo incl utils, N/S, no pets or drugs. Avail 12/1. Call 781-255-0946.

Peaceful, Spacious Sunny
Belmont,7 rm, frpl, hdwd, attic. Sking respectful, clean female, 30+ to shr w/female holistic prof. $875+ 617-489-7979.

Quincy: Located nr Quincy Ctr/red line. 2 prof F sk F 25+ n/s, quiet, responsible, for 3 bdrm apt w/no pets. $450+. 617-457-7577.

QUINCY: Share Studio. $300/mo. Woman only. Smoke/Drink OK. Delco Assoc. 617-376-2309

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ROSLINDALE
Diverse female houshold w/2 cats no more pets, sks female roomate 30+ mature, neat, warm heart, responsible, common sense-living w/others, gay friendly. Nr. T, hdwd fls, cbl tv, cute house w/yard, quiet nbhd. $400+ avail. 3/1 617-469-0670.

ROSLINDALE/W.ROXBURY: Prof. F w/sm dog sks prof. F to share awesome 2br+den. Hdwd flr, new EIK/bath. F/B porch, yard, W/D, nr T. Small dog ok. $700+, avail now thru 3/1. 617-327-2777.

SHIPPER
Small South End wholesale company seeks highly motivated person. Responsibilities include assembling cartons, packing product and various other creative tasks. Should be able to lift 35 pounds. F/T + benefits. **617-357-7117.**

SOMERVILLE: N/S, prof male seeks same for sunny 2BR. $550/mo. 617-628-2998.

SOMERVILLE/DAVIS SQ: Resp F, 26+, to shr 2BR. Nr T. No pets/drugs/cigs/musicians. $650+ 617-623-7415 bfor 9pm

SOMERVILLE: F seeks prof F 24-35, N/S. w/d, on-strt pkg, near red line and buses. $500 + utils. first, last, sec dep req. 617-666-2246.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD line. Rm in 3 br apt skng M/F, fdly, clean, prof, N/S, no pets. Nr T & Tufts. Patio, w/d, $600/mo + utils. Avail now. Call 781-393-0607.

SOUTH END: 1br in sunny SE apt, charming block, dsl. M prof seeks M/F prof or grad student. N/S, no pets (I have 2 cats). $725/mo + dep. 617-247-4233

South End: Rmmte needed Mar 1 or earlier to share 2BR. Prof GWM, quiet, neat, travel 20-30% of yr. $750/m +1/2utils. 1yr lease. Credit check & ref req. 1st + deposit req at move in. Call Chris: 617-425-0453

STONEHAM: Prof Mom sks mature F to share 3 bdrm house. luv pets/smking ok. 400+util. laundry, AC, nr 128&93. Avail 2/1. 781-438-4851.

W. Quincy: Prof M 29 to share 2br 1ba condo.Full furn. N/S, N/pets. Rarely home during week. $500+1/2U Sean617-901-3385.

WALTHAM
Luxury apartment complex in a townhouse Private bath, hardwood floor $675 Available at www.easyroommate.com 1-800-877-2557

Waltham: Looking for cool roommate(s?) for 2 flr apt w hdwd flrs, off strt pkg. Must be normal, responsible, 23-35yo who likes to have fun & is laid back. $700/mo + utils. Call Timothy 781-894-4746

WATERTOWN/CAMB: Spac 3BR apt, 2nd & 3rd flr. Attic, 2LRs, sunrm, pool table, W/D, grbg disp, drvwy, newly renov. Skg 1rmmt. Avl 02/01. $483. 617-924-5945

WATERTOWN: 2M sk 1M/F, 35+, neat, quiet, N/S/pets, for 3BR townhouse, deck, nr T. $475 +utils. Avail 3/1. Call 617-576-8843.

WATERTOWN: Quiet F sks N/S; for 2BR apt. betwn 71-73 bus. $550+ 1/2utils, pkg, no pets, female pref. Avail immed. (617)926-8081.

WATERTOWN: Prof., 30+, for furnished 2bdrm apt. Quiet, neat, fun, sunny, prkg, lndry, nr bus, N/pets. $750 +utils. Avl now. Call 617-924-5033.

WINCHESTER: 1F sks 2 pref for lrg, sunny, 3br. 2nd flr apt, frplce, porch, prkng, w/d. Avail after 1/15. $700/mo + utils. 617-628-2601 x3190.

WINTHROP: (next to E. Boston) Nice/safe area. T/Boston/beach very close. N/S, Foreign student wanted. $295+ for 1/$195+ to shr. 617-846-7052.

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ALLSTON- Resp adult, 30+, F wanted for 6BR, indep, ez going hse. Nr bus, T. No more pets. $467+ utils. 617-254-3985 or 617-254-5251.

ALLSTON- Resp adult, 30+, F wanted for 6BR, indep, ez going hse. Nr bus, T. No more pets. $467+ utils. 617-254-3985 or 617-254-5251.

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CAMBRIDGE/PORTER SQ: Rm in lrg indep/co-op Vict hse, N/S, no more pets. 2kit, 2bth. $450 incl gas/elec/ht. First/last/house fee. 617-628-5497.

DRACUT Mat rmmt to shr home. N/S N/Drugs $400 includ utils. Sec dep req. Call Dan 978-453-8749

LOWELL: Prof GWM sks N/S GM/F. 2rms avl now in 3BR Colonial, 1.5bth, W/D, cls to Rts 3/495, walk to Cmtr Rail/UMass-Lowell. $450 & $525 both +utils. 978-458-9509.

NEWTON CORNER
Co-op hse skng 1 good man, 35+. Do u smile & say good morning to your hsmtes? Do u enjoy cooking & eating good food? Do u have a gud sense of humor & occasionally laff at yourself? Then maybe u'd like to live with us. 3M, 4F, 1cat. Elegant Vict hse. $500+ N/S/pets. 617-244-6324 or 244-6054

NEWTON CORNER: Share semi-veg meals/chores in friendly, N/S co-op. 1 large BR. Sunny renov. victorian w/garden, porches, piano, W/D. On bus line, parking. No more pets. $485.(inclds utils), sec dep req. 617-527-3477.

Newton Highlands: Long term. $425 per mo D/D, D/W, DR, kit, yard, pking, storage, nr 128/30/9/90, T, shops, N/S, furry pets or kids, avail immed. 617-964-6377 or 781-736-1902.

NEWTON: 2M sk resp, M/F N/S to share lg. 4br 3ba house. Pkng,yd,W/D. $567+1/3util 617-332-3209 or 214-215-1712

ROSLINDALE: M/F wanted, nsmkr, F pref, pets(?), bus/T, off st prkng, W/D. Avail ASAP. $425+ utils. Oliver 617-469-1709.

Somerville: GWM prof sks same 35+ for spacious 6 bdrm apt. Furn space. N/S must be pet friendly, $1000 + utils. All amenities provided. Great location. Walk to Harvard and Porter. Available 3/01. Call 617-308-7830.

Somerville: GWM prof sks same 35+ for spacious 6 bdrm apt. Furn space. N/S must be pet friendly, $1000 + utils. All amenities provided. Great location. Walk to Harvard and Porter. Available 3/01. Call 617-308-7830.

SOMERVILLE/TEELE SQ: 1 M/F 25+ wanted for 4BR hse w Lrg kitch, LV, DR, front porch, lg yard. $550 +utils. Avl 3/1. Call 617-628-2583.

SOUTH BOSTON/SAVIN HILL AREA: 2 nice rms in Victorian hse, good st, quiet hse. Good for creative person. Nr red line, renov. W/D. 1 & 1/2 bths. No lease. $575 & $605 incl all utils/pkg. 617-474-1664.

TREES AND QUIET
NEWTON: seeks clean, quiet N/S to share large, architect-designed home near West Newton Sq and T. Furn, top floor BR w/ AC, bath. Separate sitting area, closet, storage and garage prkng. Share kitch, w/d, dr, lr, fr, deck w/ owner. Gay friendly home w/ family dog. No pets, party animals, or couples. $1200 incl util. 617-244-8151, 9am-9pm.

WATERTOWN 3 prof M have 1 bedroom open for m/f. N/S In a 4bdrm. 2ba. apt. w/d. Avail. 3/1 $500 + util. 617-393-1834

WATERTOWN
Skng GM to shr a home in quiet nghbrhd. Nr pub trans. W/D, phone/cable hkup in BR. $350+ utils & hsehold expenses. 1st mo, sec & hse dep. 617-923-2480.

WEST MEDFORD CO-OP: RM in lrg indep/coop Vic hse, N/S, lrg yard & gardns, off-st pkg. We are 2M/2F, 1 teen. $400/mo incl utils. We share food, fun, responsibilities. Call 781-483-1796.

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CAMBRIDGE:1 BR near red line between Harvard and Porter Sq. 5 mo sublet starting 4/1 w/ option to renew. $1600/mo. 617-868-7156.

NORWOOD 1 bdr deluxe w/ balcony $1375 h/hw included walk to commuter rail immediate occupancy Winsor grd (802) 258-4528

SOMERVILLE 2-MONTH SUBLET
$300/month; 1 BR in 4 BR apt. March 15-May 15. Free Washer & Dryer. Living Rm & Kitchen. Nr Tufts/Teele Sq. 15 min. walk to Davis Sq/Red Line. Call Azalea at 628-2382.

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BOSTON
Lrg. 2-3BR apt. New kitchen & bathroom, front & rear porches on Red line. 5 minutes to JFK/UMASS. 8 minutes to Andrew Sq. $1260/mo. 617-265-6955.

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DORCHESTER
Cozy 3 bedroom apartment, newly renovated, close to Red Line and Adam's Village. $1400. Call 617-282-1262.

Newton: Nice 1BR in basement of hse. $950 incl heat, garage pkg, laundry, wlk to cmtr rail, seperate entr. 617-796-0120

Room for Rent
Lg bdrm for rent w/private bath, office complete w/computer and printer and reserved indoor pking spot. Located on a cul de sac in one of Westons most desirable neighborhoods. All utils includ. Move in anytime between March 1st & April 1st asking $800 monthly, email me barbbc99@hotmail.com.

SOMERVILLE APARTMENT FOR RENT NO FEE
1BR avl E. Somerville. 6 min. to Sullivan T. N/S/Pets $925 w/ basement/storage. Avl 3/1 Call Andrew 617-776-8968.

apts. wanted

ROOM WANTED. Quiet, N/S, ex-patriate, Cape Codder F, middle-age/ret., lkng to room in Camb/Harv Sq or any Camb. nr trans. $100/week. Lv mess @ 617-824-4289.

Single F, 24, looking for apt in Boston. Need to be near MBTA. Needed ASAP. $300-$500. jshee22@hotmail.com, 617-650-1481.

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to record high quality Pop/Jazz/R+B songs. Fully written. Minimal time commitment. 413-684-1198 +/or tfluke@empire.net

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Hurricane Jane seeks 2nd Fem vocals/guitarist. Infl Kate Bush, Tori Amos. Visit www.hurricanejane.com/bvox.html or email: kyra@hurricanejane.com

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Super garage band seeks exp. keys & rythm gtr. (w/vox) for blues/dance/rock every 2 weeks. Call 781-892-8112.

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ATTENTION ORIGINAL BANDS!
Audition packages are being accepted for the first annual Block Island Rhode Island Music Festival June 10th-17th 2001. Bands perform a one hour set in exchange for $100 spending, overnight accommodations, a merchandise table to sell product and the chance to meet and play with up and coming bands. Send all audition material to: Marc Scortino PO Box 1305 Waitsfield, VT 05673. Submissions must be received by 3/1/01.

Attn: All Musicians
looking for keyboardist, drummer, jazz guitarist & vocalist comfortable with Middle Eastern sound for Boston concert. Females are encouraged to apply. 617-734-5887.

AVAILABLE:
Female singer and drummer for rock/pop/folk-type projects. Interested in playing live/recording. Call us at 781-592-2709 or email at: reedrock2001@yahoo.com

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ultrahot vox/poet sks. band/indvs. to write and record 5-song demo CD. elements include ecstatic lyrics (rilke meets morrison), killer dance grooves (african, hip-hop, middle eastern, r&b), guitar heroics (jimmy page, the edge), and major rock&roll swagger.
call 4 audition:
bryan eden 617-629-2906.

BARN nds Bass w/Vox
Orig. Amer. Rock (Tom Petty, Stones, Husker). Must be: dedicated & serious. Bk. vox a must. Trans & equip. too. Call Barn 617-247-6999 or email mantra1966@cs.com

BASS & KEYS/ACCORDIAN
No, we're not on the verge of getting signed but if you're tired of the same old, we have orig music and need an open minded, creative bass and keys/accd player. Incred S.B., Cave, Cohen, Mariachi/Samba, Div Cmdy, Meat Pups, S. Walker:Scott, 781-395-6312.

BASS - YES?
Orig power-pop rock band Red Planet sks 4th member. Rhrse 1-2x wk in Framingham (free), Gig 1-2x month in Boston. Finishing 2nd CD. Have good gear, trans, straightforward less is more style + strong desire/attitude. Bkg voc a plus. Visit www.redplanet-boston.com and call Don 617-971-0170 or John 508-259-4406.

BASS
aggressive bass wanted for rock band. 60's-80's Classic rock. (Hendrix, stones, Zeppelin, The Who, Van Halen,...) + originals eventually. Have practice space & PA. Only serious Rock 'n' Rollers need to call!!! Tommy 781-488-3655

BASS AVAILABLE
Experienced with vocals. Part-time only. Roots, Blues, Rock, Original/Cover. Metro West. Call George at 508-655-7736.

BASS AVAILABLE
for indie pop/rock band. My style is melodic, driving, simple & solid. Looking for established project in Boston/North area. Call Walt @ 781-979-0114 or wtilazewicz@aol.com

BASS
Funky refugee from 70's showbands. Sam 617-471-3676.

BASS
Groove plyr, exp w/most styles, w/strength in blues, rock, & R&B. Avail for sessions, sit-ins & tours. All sits considered. Tom 603-692-3553 or ebassbytm@mediaone.net

Bass
Half Life of None, CD, gigs, airplay, National tour in May. sks exp bass for hrd rock with beauty of R-head, bite of D-tones, quirk of Chavez, emo of SDRE. Great, challenging music. Gary 617-734-3290 or halflifeofnone@earthlink.net

BASS N DRUMS
Nag Champa is looking for a bassist, (preferably who plays upright) and a drummer. To hear our music go to www.champamusic.com, if interested call 617-388-6723.

BASS NEEDED
Established R'n'R band seeking bass. Backing vox a plus. Have good gigs in Bos. Orig+cov. Serious and fun. Call soon, 617-598-1046 x2897.

BASS NEEDED
Wrkng Natick based Blues/R+B band sks Bass Plyr. R. Charles, G. Allman, R. Ford, S.R.V. Call before 7pm 508-653-0259.

BASS NEEDED
BASS NEEDED FOR N.S. COVER BAND!! We have $$$-gigs, rehearsal space, own PA & a sound company that works for us. Aerosmith/ Run-DMC/ Commodores/ Clash/ Static-X/ Linkin Park/ Orgy etc... Luketick@aol.com www.THEHANGOVERS.NET Call Mike Luke 781-581-1906. Pager 617-486-2065.

BASS or GUIT WANTED
Every Second seek pro bass player or guitarist (current bass player willing to play either instrument). Infl: Helmet, Deftones, S.O.A.D, Metallica, Clutch, Faith no more, Serious Inq Only. Must have experience, presence, energy, gear, transp, rehearse 3-4X/wk. We have airplay, CD, label interest. Call Darren 617-924-3113

BASS PLAYER NEEDED
to join guitarist for rock oriented acoustic duet possibly leading to full blown rock band. Vocals helpful. Checking out VT wknd gigs. Influ: Hot Tuna/DiFranco. Bob @ 781-843-6985.

Bass Player w Vox
Working S. Shore weekend club/function band sks exp bass player w vox. Music from 60's-80's & pop. Call 781-575-6130

BASS PLAYER
For orig. rock/pop bnd (recip of 2 BMAs, major ind int). Soon to rec, showcases in April. BVox a +. Call to aud. 617-783-9222

BASS PLAYER
Blues/Rock power duo, sks bass player for good clean fun. Southern N.H. practice space. Contact Paul 800-898-4350 ext11.

BASS PLAYER WANTED
Boston metal band, OHM, seeks bassist. Must have gear, transportation and chops. Visit www.ohmboston.com for information on the band. Contact Pete 617-703-5862 and leave a message or email management@ohmboston.com

BASS PLAYER WTD
to jam, gig w/ guitarist + drummer. Original Indie-Pop-Punk. Infl: Sugar, Pixies, Pumpkins. Patrick 617-868-8246.

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Jazz/funk/fusion band needs a bass player. Have gigs, rhrse once a week, gig 2-3 times/mo. www.flkus.net, Call Misha 617-386-1307.

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Have studio/jam spot. Goal to make CD & play Middle East. Call TJ 978-750-6896 & lv message.

BASSIST WANTED
Orig. rock/pop band w/ CD on college charts, gigs, etc, needs dedicated team player. 617-880-1594

BASSMAN
Solid R&B, Funk, Motown, Jazz, Rock bassman seeks dedicated, hard-working band. 781-860-7220 (h).

BHAKTI
Exp Guitarist sks Keys/Drums/Bass to collaborate on an Improv-Rock project. Folk/Blues/Rock roots, branches in funk/latin/reggae/techno. Vox a +++. Have trans and some time to dedicate to a collaborative project. Mike at 617-987-8195

Blues Band
Skg singer, bass, drums, harp, sax, keys, Bro./Sisters, Orig/Covers. Bos/N. Shr area. Call 8am/9pm 978-887-5095

BLUES FOOD SKS SUB KEYS & DRUMS
Serious wrkng Blues bnd sks sub keys & drums. Rehrse 1x per week/gig 4-10x a month in N.E. Also need sub bass. Paul 617-666-1026.

BOOM CRASH
Dynamic/Versatile Drums
Live & Studio
617-689-0023
www.johnkerr.net

CELLO & DRUM
Needed ASAP for guitarless rock band. Have gigs and CD. Infl: Morphine, Wire, CAN, Soul Coughing. Email moniqueortiz@hotmail.com or visit MP3.com/bourbonprincess

CHRISTIAN MUSICIAN???
Christian contemporary rock/praise band. All original music 100 songs already written. Sks sax, piano, violin, bass, guitar, lead singer, backup vocalist. Ministry minded, Quincy area. Billy 617-472-7787.

Christian band sks bass player
Orig Christian hard rock band sks bass player. Call Larry 508-872-0119 or Jonathan 781-272-8236.

CLASSIC ROCK DRUMMER AVAIL.
Heart and soul chops, dynamically disciplined, power pitched backing vocals with full circle pro experience. Sks 1960s to 80s era, vocally oriented, W.Z.L.X type classic rock coverband for payed wkend gigs. Call Frankie J. 781-925-4492.

CREATIVE MUSICIANS
Orig folk/rock/acoustic/eclectic band sks bass, keys, fiddler/cello, lap steal w/strong harmony; join est. band. Reh wkly, gig mthly. Great fun! Lenny, Day(617)495-4215, Eve (617)492-0162; solomon@harvard.edu

YOU DRUM?
Punk/ska band seeks drummer. We have gigs, label interest, and airplay. You have great chops, gear, trans. Rehearse 3X/wk plus gigs. Inf. incl. Clash, Marley, Rancid, Specials, Ramones, etc.
781-393-0153 or info@blackmarketmedallions.com

DRUMMER
and bass player wanted. Into dark tribal sounds, cats and moonbathing. Bands like Siouxsie, Sky Cries Mary, PJ Harvey, Heather Nova. Call Kelly @ 617-782-1504 or kreep@prodigy.net

DRUMMER AVAILABLE
For gigs, fill-ins, studio. Have experience, transportation, space w/P.A. Boston/Providence area. 508-673-7781 or email chrisRB@webTV.net

DRUMMER AVAILABLE
Pro drummer available for recording and touring. Call for a free promo, video, or log on to www.dougmcgrew.com. drums@dougmcgrew.com 253-671-2408 or 206-769-5442.

DRUMMER
for cover, original rock, r&b, blues or start up band. 30's, Boston area and north, playing v-drums, call 978-250-9215

DRUMMER FOR YOU
Need a solid, musical drummer/perc for that upcoming project? I'm a pro (20s); 14 + yrs exp with: Gigs / US & Euro Tours / Film-TV-Radio Soundtracks / Studio. Have gear, trans, & great rates.
Fernando 617-547-7349.
fdrum@hotmail.com
www.drumfernando.com

DRUMMER NEEDED
We are keys/bass/guitar. Experimental rock music. Latin, jazz, blues, hard rock. Gigs lined up. 617-877-5659 cida1@msn.com

DRUMMER NEEDED:
young pop band. Bkgd vox. Hurry gigs in BOS/NYC/DC (tbi int/space/CD) gordon@fooled-byapril.com/617-441-5479.

DRUMMER NEEDED
Zyola Blue has completed full length CD. Singer/guitar, piano, and bass players influenced in folk rock music are ready to expand. Melissa 617-469-7413.

DRUMMER SEEKING
Rhythm & blues band. Infl: B.B King, Willie Dixon, Buddy Guy, Rolling Stones. Call and leave message. Ask for Chip 617-361-2109

DRUMMER SEEKS
Rockabilly, Swing, Punk, Ska ONLY. Years of live/rec exp, solid chops, groove, tenor vox, trans, prac space, PA, website builder. Est. band pref. Call Josh 617-789-3686.

DRUMMER SEEKING
other mature musicians for fun and jamming, rock/blues/jazz. 2 yrs experience, now looking to play. Call Allen 978-263-6451.

DRUMMER WANTED
Girl On Top an all-orig rock/punk/pop band sks long-term pro. Have gigs, mgmt., interest. Must have trans.
617-529-6243

Drummer Wanted
Boston band looking for drummer. Influ include: Punk rock, hard core & garage rock. 617-448-5525.

DRUMMER WANTED
Little white lies (female bass/vocals; male guitarist) needs drummer for pop-driven band w/outstanding songs/vocals. Influences: Crow, Amos, etc. ProTools equipped practice room. Billy 508-485-2508.

DRUMMER WANTED
Can you play like Tommy Lee, Vic Fox, Bonham? If so, you're our man. Album/tour exp. Waiting to record album. Pro's only. 508-460-5022 24 hours.

DRUMMER WANTED
Ska, Reggae, Soul
S. Shore Rehearsal
Got the Love?
Jeff 781-340-5415

DRUMMER WAANTED
Wanted. Pop rock band sks new drummer. Also, band currently gigging as pwr trio, but want to add 2nd guitar or keys player. www.thebucknerS.com, luke@thebucknerS.com

EXPERIENCED VERSATILE DRUMMER
from the south coast area, with transportation, equip & vox, seeks working wedding/function band. Call Tom 508-997-6159

DRUMS & BASS WANTED
to join/form band. Original, heavy, dark, atonal, experimental. Tool, Primus, Ministry. Derek 617-598-0796.

DRUMS 4 HIRE
Exp. drummer looking to join or start an orig. band. Infl: Tool, Soulfly, Machine Head, Rush, Nothingface. Serious musicians only. Providence/Boston area. Bob Harris 401-241-1812.

DRUMS AND BASS NEEDED
ASAP. Need chops, groove, energy. Creative sound inspired by Kravitz/Crowes, Motley/Skids, Our Lady Peace/Imperial Drag. Serious pro players call for demo. Matt/Dave 617-769-0603.

DRUMS NEEDED
Guitars, vocals, bass, seek drummer for original band. Influences irrelevant. Call B.J. at 508-698-3702.

DRUMS WANTED
30+, NShore. Beatles, Dead, Byrds, Dylan, CSN, VanMorr. For fun and local gigs. Contact: deepelem@mediaone.net

EDITH SEEKS BASS
Estab. pwrful,quirky altrockpop. Sks exp BASS for gigs, studio. Pixies, Attractions, P.Smith, Nick Lowe.Gt press. Fun'n real 617-524-7688/617-469-5054.

EXPERIENCED PRO
F vox wntd for trio. Must have good range, stage presence & be able to sing all styles of music. Willing to travel. Call eve. after 7pm @ 508-945-5684.

EXPERIENCED DRUMMER WANTED
High end band seeks exp. pro drummer for steady weekend work. Great$$, roadies, good people. Must have great attitude and proficiency. Vocals a plus. 781-449-8626 lv msg.

EXPERIENCED DRUMMER
With lead & backing vox looking to join working, general business, top 40 band. Call Jim 508-234-6465

F VOX NEEDED
to front estab Boston band. We have CD, rehearsal space, indie label, mgmt. Infl: NIN, Cure, Curve.
781-646-0084

FEMALE MUSICIANS WANTED
Inf. Kittie, Luscious Jackson, Hole, Ramones, etc., practice days. 781-237-7627 Tom.

FEMALE SINGER WTD
Alanis Morrisette sound alike wanted for forming GB band. Look alike a plus but not nec'y. Call 617-464-1072 and lv msg or e-mail ccardin860@aol.com

FEMALE VOCALIST WANTED
Top notch, GB band seeks dynamic, versatile vox. Full-time, demanding schedule with gigs throughout MA, RI and CT year round. Based in Somerset, MA. Serious pros only. Call 508-324-1507.

FEMALE VOCALIST ASAP
South shore area. Keyboardist looking for fem vox 21 or over for a duo. 60s-90s music. For clubs, weddings, func, ect. Make $. Contact Seth 508-580-2274.

Female Vox Available
Seeking mostly or all orig band in Boston area. Influ = P.J. Harvey, Alice in Chains, Cheryl Crow, Nina Simone, Mike Patton & Stevie Wonder. 617-522-2945.

FIDDLE/MANDOLIN
Vocals a must. Needed for live shows and recording. Please call: 617-277-7040 or e-mail: digfig@msn.com

FRONTMAN WANTED
Scratch My Back sks vox/harp. Working blues band playing vintage blues and R&B at HOB, Harpers Ferry.Don 617-628-8169.

GAGE
Gage looking for second guitarist w/heavy, solid chops/grooves. Hardcore/Rap/Punk/Alt./Metal. Call Alan 617-461-4243.

GB/WED BAND NEEDS EXP F-VOX
We have video & agents. Shania, FHill, Aretha, CelineD. Gd ballads/gd apear req. 28+, Nashua area, 978-433-6188.

GLINT
Seeks melodic bass/dynamic drums for modern rock act ie. Tool/Radiohead/Blur. Greg 617-388-7816.

GOAL ORIENTED
Est orig Grass Roots touring project sks mature, creative individuals to support Eclectic Roots music. Styles: Rock/Klezmir/Cajun/Jazz/Funk/Zydeco. If you play bass, sax, clar, fidd, call 508-949-8600. F/T commit, realistic goals: this is the band for you!

GROOVIN' GUITAR
to complete orig funk/rock/r&b band. Dedication, equip, trans a must! Steve or Michele 781-871-8363.

GUITAR
Gage looking for second guitarist w/heavy, solid chops/grooves. Hardcore/Rap/Punk/Alt./Metal. Call Alan 617-461-4243.

GUITAR LOOKING
to start band. Over 30, gig once a month, more for fun, have equip. Dead, Feat, Spin Doctors styles. Call David 617-225-3470.

GUITAR PLAYER W/ BACK VOX NEEDED
Variety/rock/experimental. Great gigs, chops, fun! MCA pub. Hurry! 617-489-4746.

GUITAR SEEKS
bass/drums/keys/fem vox. The Damned, Mercyful Fate, Bjork, The Gathering, Blackmore's Night. Call Rowan 781-246-9441.

GUITAR WANTED
Orig band w/ $ gigs, CD, mngt, label int, seeks 4th member for tour. Alt rock/Americana, Wilco, Wallflowers, Beatles. Must have gear/trans. Email: Tofmusic@aol.com

GUITAR WANTED
Country ld guitar wntd for orig./cover band with CD/Gigs. We like Merle, Emmy Lou, Dwight, Take with B-Bender a plus. 617-661-0754, www.laurelmichaels.com countryguitar@hotmail.com

GUITAR WTD
The Scrimshanders immediately need a new lead guitar player. We're a leading area Americana/country-rock band with regular gigs and a new CD. If you can play like Gurf Morlix, Buddy Miller, Neil Young, and Mike Campbell, we want to hear you. Call John 617-971-9683 or thescrimshanders@yahoo.com

Guitarist looking
for bass player & keyboard player to join with. Looking to start a cover band, possible originals to play out of bars, clubs and parties. Call Sean 401-886-5921 or email: WMACG4@aol.com.

Guitarist Needed
To complete Pop/Rock band with alternative edge. Lot's of material, great space, gigs, professional attitude. Call Chris 617-929-0089

GUITARIST & CELLIST WNTD
for new band. Backing Vox a big +. Must have taste, chops, expressiveness. Music ranges from folk/rock/groove, depending on song, w/emphasis on melody, dynamics & emotion. 1st album already recorded to be shopped this fall. Brian 617-496-2307(day)/617-547-9860(ev)

GUITARIST
Pro ld guitarist sks to join wrkng/near wrkng cover band. Formerly w/Shoot the Moon, the Pour Boys, et al. Inf. incl. Goo Goo Dolls/Pearl Jam/3rd Eye Blind/Oasis. Mike (508)797-1142.

GUITARIST AVAILABLE
for working GB club. Band experience in Blues, Rock, Jazz. Can read, vocal ability. NE area, gigs. Call 401-784-5703.

GUITARIST SEEKS
Vocals, Bass, Drums to form original Rock & Roll Band. Early 20s only. Infl: Stones, Beatles, Who, Zep. Tommy 617-740-9716.

GUITARIST
Guitar looking for band or just to play- the Ex, X, Boredoms, Fall, Mekons, Devo, Rough Trade. 617-524-4236.

Guitarist/Vocalist/Songwriter, 24, looking to form four-piece band. If you play bass, keys or drums and are interested in writing and performing, call Billy at 617-523-7163. Influences are irrelevant.

GUITARIST:
w/ a lot of original material & creativity searching for Vocalist w/ same to create Rock that's Powerful/Heavy & Quiet/Soft, all with the Deep Expansive power of the Soul. The Masters: Zeppelin, Beatles, Ravi Shankar, Filter, Creed, Godsmack. Stephan 781-646-3758

HAND DRUMMERS
Sking drummers to form drumming ansemble. No need to be virtuoso. But MUST be willing to work hard (alone/in group) toward high level of technical skill. Repertoire will include traditional (African/Caribbean etc.) rhythms, the work of master drummers like Babatunde & Toure, and originals. Must own drum. Contact Siopeht at 617-794-8038.

HARMONICA PLAYER
Folk and country blues harp player looking to jam w/ acoustic folk musicians, possibly start or join a band to play in local coffeehouses, festivals, etc. Call Carl 781-599-6365

HEAVY POP
Boston based heavy pop guitarist/singer/writer sks resp., committed, drug free bassist w/ vocal ability to complete band.Think Kiss, Beatles, Sabbath, Weezer. Call 617-548-9856 between 7-10:30pm or email heavypop2000@yahoo.com for more info.

HELLO
Guitar player (singer) that has to play blues, R&B, etc. Aval to form/join band or for gigs. Calls from focused workers only. Blues & R&B calls only because BLUES IS A BIG DEAL. Steve 617-389-7322.

Hillbilly Bop
Male guit/vox looking for others to play Rockabilly/Western Swing/Hillbilly Bop. 617-641-2904 or whunt@ndevelop.com

HORN PLAYER NEEDED
If you are a skilled sax, trumpet, or trombone player who wants to play w/a first-rate group, this is your opportunity. We are working adults who play pro-level music on a p/t basis; we have excellent rhythm section, vocals, sound system, and rehearsal space. We play a wide variety of music - rock, funk, r&b, latin, swing, blues, jazz; cover & orig. We're looking for someone like ourselves - a hard working team player w/excellent ears, equipment, & chops. Call 978-443-4036. (Steve)

Imagine That
is looking for an exp vocalist. We play orig & all styles of rock, blues, jazz. Also looking for various other instruments. We have reh space in Frammingham. Serious musicians only no hacks. Call Dave at 508-877-1626 or Chris at 508-376-8375.

IN SEARCH OF
Bass player & drummer. Est. singer/song writer & ld guit need dynamic rythm section to complete project. Must be talented & hungry. New cd & touring opps. Call Demetri 508-655-7660 Cell 508-843-9064

INDIE ROCK CELLO & ORGAN
wrnted for moody-pop thing. Call 617-983-0046 or write: amaws@yahoo.com

INDUSTRIAL/NOISE
Looking for other dark noise makers,
convulsion_now@yahoo.com

INRI RECORDS
Seeks music for TV, Film, Media Development, Distribution, Re-arrangement. Send CD/Tape. *617-549-4674

INSEARCH OF HARMONICA LESSONS
North Shore guy is desirous of learning to play a Blues Harp. Willing to pay by the hour. Ask for Ed at 978-281-4848.

IT'S ALIVE!
X Push Push, Incredible Casuals, and veteran session drummer looking to resurface in Boston scene. Recent activity: recording Ramona Silver, live James Montgomery. CD compilation, resume available. 508-432-1945.
birmdrums2@yahoo.com.

JAZZ BASS
Bass (acous or elec) wanted for weekly Newton jam session/rehearsals and occasional gigs w/ est band. Emphasis on progressive jazz of all types. 617-928-0330.

JAZZ BASS
Mature Bass Player wanted by 40+ guitarist to develope repertoire of Jazz and Pop standards. North Shore. Leave message at 978-470-5011.

Jazz Guitar Wanted
By same 4 jazz guitar duo. Influ: Joe Pass/Herb Ellis, Miles, Metheny. Play standards, swing, free jazz and originals. Plan to record CD and gig. Serious inquires call Mike at 617-623-2753. mjoec@yahoo.com.

JAZZ TRIO
Experimental jazz guitar seeks drums and trumpet for trio. Has charts and gigs. Call Jamie 617-230-3289.

Jazz Trio Wanted
For Kapow, a hip new Brookline Restaurant. Call 617.738.7200 or stop by 1032 Commonwealth Ave. Ask for Derek.

Keyboard player wanted
Near giging band looking for keys/lead vox. Call Brett 508-822-9034.

KEYBOARD PLAYER WANTED
Forming R&B, Blues, Funk band seeking keyboard player for a very high quality project. Northern Worcester County. George 978-297-0059.

KEYBOARDIST WANTED
For the original rock/funk/soul band Thi Anonymous Richard. Contact Ben at 617-905-8274. www.thiwebsite.com

KEYBOARDIST LOOKING FOR CELLIST AND VIOLINIST
to form Rachel's like group. Exp not nec but a desire to collaborate and grow towards rec/gigs a must. Sharon 617-369-1992, muse_ician@yahoo.com

KEYBOARDS AVAILABLE
with backing harm vox (plays rhythm gtr, harp too) Lkng for classic rock/blues band 60s-90s. Gig 1-2 times a month. Call Glenn 781-326-4257.

KEYS WANTED
60s-00s Rock. 2 women, 3 men (30-50); guits, bass, drums, 3 exc vox; seek keys (guit/vox a +). Practice weekly - Acton. Perf 1/mo. Ward 978-635-1913, WBein1@AOL.com

KEYS, GUIT, BASS
LD guit, kys, bs (lvng) wanted by bnd w/ Globe, Perf, Noise rvws, CD in stores. For gigs, CD. Infl: R-head, J Buckley, Late Beatles, Doors. 781-646-4926.

LEAD GTR AVAIL
To join wrkng or near-wkng heavy metal/hard rock band. Have killer equip, chops, exp, dedication. U must have same. Pro situat. only. Covers and/or orig. Infl: Ozzy, Zeppelin, Godsmack, STP, Creed, etc. Call Kevin @ 978-744-8369

LEAD GUITARIST
Exceptional player w/yrs of experience, sks orig/cover wkng blues, bass, rock band in the North Shore area. Versatile and will sing back up. Have demo. Available for studio work. Influ includ: Zep & S.R.V. Contact Dom @ 617-490-0299.

LEAD GUITARIST/KEYS
wanted for power singer w/awesome rhythm section and CD currently for sale. Exp necessary. Pro's only. 508-359-4546.

LEAD GUITARIST WANTED
Orig. & cover rock, funk & blues band. Gig 1-2 nights/wk. Also acoustic gigs, vox a +. Must have trans. Alan in Conc, MA 978-369-2370

LEAD GUITARIST & DRUMMER WANTED
ASAP, for established gigging rock band. Must be team player, pro attitude, no egos. Paul 781-899-4076.

LOCOBAZOOKA!
Sept. 2001, Bands, artists, vendors, now's your chance to be a part of New England's largest music, art festival, and band showcase! Send info to:
3-D Entertainment
17 Fourth St.
Worcester, MA 01602
or visit:
www.locobazooka.com
Tomorrow's stars today!

MALE VOCALIST
Busy working original/cover modern rock band sks new male vocalist/front man. Must have car and be totally dedicated. Call 781-641-4881.

METAL BAND
Metal Band looking for serious bass. Call Nozzle at 508-229-8402.

Multi-keys Needed
If you are a top-notch multi-key player who wants to play with a first-rate group, this is your opportunity. We are working adults who play pro-level music on a p/t basis; we have excellent rhythm section, horns, vocals, sound system, and rehearsal space. We play a wide variety of music - rock, funk, r&b, latin, swing, blues, jazz; cover & orig. We are looking for someone like ourselves - a hard working team player with excellent ears, gear, and chops. Call 978-443-4036. (Steve)

MUSICIANS NEEDED
Musicians needed to complete band in the Lawrence area. Call Jill, 978-687-0879.

MUSICIANS
Seeking male or female guitarist, drummer or keys for working top forty group. Must have equipment and transportation. Call 781-340-5775.

MUSICIANS
looking for drummer who swings (copeland, weinberg) and bass player or guitarist for original rock band. I sing and play bass or guitar and have music and demo. 781-598-4449.

MUSICIANS
Seeking music instructors interested in making house call lessons in Newton/Wellesley and Lexington areas. Call 781-890-1222

NEED BASS NOW
Boston-based singer/guitarist and drummer seek bass to complete band. Infl Nirvana, Local H, Sabbath. Call Mark 781-883-1350.

NEED DRUMMER
Must be hip, groovin, experienced in jazz (also funk, hip-hop & reggae). 617-325-5751, www.hyptonic.com

NEW MUSICAL
Singers needed, both pop & legit, for demo CD of new musical. 413.253.4786 or eyethree@hotmail.com.

NY Vibe
Drummer sks intelligent, tasteful, soulful, grooving musicians/songwriters/vocalists for creative covers and originals. Jazz. Blues. Funk. No drugs. Rob 401-621-9096.

ONE SEEKS DRUMMER
Have four CD's, rehearsal space, and experience. Leave message 617-922-2724

Ooh baby I like it raw!
Get your mind out of the gutter. I'm talking about music. I'm looking to start or join a rock/punk/alt. band with playful musicians who are ambitious, talented, experienced and creative. Must be willing and able to rehearse twice/wk & play out atleast twice/mo. I am the former ld sngr of ScissorKiss who respects Wendy O., Chrissie Hynde, Sinead O'Connor. I have lyrics, a strong stage prescence and experience. Call Arian at 617-739-8863 or 617-954-4611 Be creative, not restrictive, and we will get along just fine!

Org. band w/gigs in store seek BASS + DRUMS. Have material, want YOUR creative input. Sound: hooks + dynamics, kinda Pretenders/Foo Fighters/U2ish. Rehearse 3x a week. Serious only. Please no ego/drug/drinking problems. Steph 508-746-4179.

PINK FLOYD TRIBUTE ACT
Est Pink Floyd Tribute act now auditioning multi-keys. Money gig. Vocalg a +. Pro gear attitude, commitment req, Wkends free & be able to travel. We have private reh space, pro light & sound system. 781-646-0859.

POP BASS NOW!!
Nat'l touring indi-pop trio skg bass IMMEDIATELY, No weekend warriors. Inf: New Order, Mag Fields. 80s pop. 2 month tour for music, not money. Call Myke @ 617-524-4614

POPROCK BAND
Seeks guit/bass harmony vox a must. Writing a+. Beatles, Oasis, Travis. 20's pref. 617-327-9219- between 5 and 8pm.

POWER VOCALS
Male lead vocalist seeking pro band for cover/original project. I have 10 years exp. in working pro bands with looks and attitude. Have my own PA and some recording equipment. Infl: AIC, STP, God Smack. Contact Rich 781-289-6339.

PRO DRUMMER
w/pro gear & no ego seeks near or playing cover gig. Must be pro sound! Infl: Dave Matthews, M/Box 20, G/Dolls, Rage, 3rd Eye, Foo Fighters, etc. Tom 508-400-7753 ANYTIME!

PRO DRUMMERmuchEXP
Funk/Pop/ContempJazz
Drives&Grooves w/taste
GoodEar.Musical.Listens
Writes/ArmgesPlaysKeys
Solid.Committed.Funky.
4CD: 413-684-1198 or
tfluke@empire.net

PRO GUITARIST
seeks to join original, melodic, heavy band. Call John 401-729-1922 or email: jpollard12@aol.com

Pro Producer/Recording Artist
Help w/recording, jiggles, song writing, film scoring, arranging, organizing & producing. Creditals: the prod of many commerical proj worked with YO YO MA, David Lindley, Peter Yarrow & others. Grad of Berklee. 25 yrs exp. Affordable. For consulatation call 508-949-8600.

PRO SAX PLAYER ARRANGER
Experienced soloist section player. All styles. F/T-P/T, Masters, NECONS. Solid references. Call 401-737-3656.

PROF BASSIST & DRUMMER
seek pro lead guitarist to form creative, all orig band in progressive/rock/metal style. Call Steve 978-262-9880 or Mike 781-853-0762

PROFESSIONAL MODERN DRUMMER
All styles. Call Dan @ 508-429-5878

PUNK BAND
Singer/guitarist seeks drums, bass, and 2nd guitarist. Influences: MXPX, Goldfinger, Rancid, Green Day, The Ataris. If interested give me a call and leave a message. 21 and over please. Jay, 617-361-0336.

RE-FORMING
Guitar/Bass/Keys needed. Full time road band. Have gigs! Top 40, Alt Variety. Call John 781-447-2122.

SADE
F vocalist/songwriter sks others to write/record/gig pop fusion jazz w/Brazilian, Latin, Middle Eastern influences. Shelly 781-888-2027.

SAX/KEYS/VOX PRO SIDE MAN
Very exp, young, esygng, NEC grad, sks est band for $$ gigs &/or org projects. Can read/write music, have plyed GB, R&B, Top 40, Pop, Jazz, Ska, Reggae, Big Band, Rock, Alt. Prefer orig project but will listen to any offer, incl GB & cover bands. Can travel, have car & equip. Freelance/pick-up gigs ok, but would prefer a F/T gig.
Jimi (617)924-3868 lv mess.

SEEKING SONGWRITER'S
Berklee College of Music student/female vocalist skng original songs for demo/possible production. Songwriter's submit demos of Pop/Rock/R&B/Alternative songs w/contact info. Send to: Lisa Palleschi 150 Mass Ave. Box 788 Boston MA 02115

SERIOUS BLUES PLAYER
Blues guitarist seeks to join or form working band. Multi-ethnic welcome. Traditional 401-397-3213.

SINATRA
Seeking bass and piano for pro gigging lounge act. Must be hip and read charts. Call Jim 781-440-9291.

SINGER AND DRUMMER
Singer and drummer with gig experience seek lead guitar, rhythm, bass and keys to form part-time cover band. Looking for mates who have limited time, but miss the stage. Call Andy 617-901-9859.

SINGER
Soul/Rock Vox sk pro gig. Stevie, Beatles, Brit pop. Please have demo and drive. Call Jon 617-731-8492.

SINGER WANTED
The Islington wants you...energetic, committed, indie/punk go from there. Must love to rock 24/7 and 2-3 times a week. Fugazi, GNR, Zep, Tubby, and Gang of Four. 617-254-0478.

SINGER/GUITARIST
Seek bass & drums, possible 2nd guitar to form rock band. Hendrix, Allmans, Led Zep, Creed. Call Jay 781-340-5554.

SINGER/SONGWRITER
seeks inspired, dedicated musicians. Goals: rehearse, play live,record, develop, pursue. Infl: Ben Harper, Sublime, Van Morrison. Email Adam at ajhirsh@hotmail.com

Soundman looking for gigs. 3 way JBL system, 4 monitors, 24-32 channel capability. Reasonable rates. Call 401-247-0127.

SPIRITUAL POP/ROCK
Musicians & vox wanted for exciting new contemporary Christian Church in Westford. Dave 978-692-5900

STARTING A DARK INDUSTRIAL BAND
Need synth, drum machine, bass player. Infl NIN, Skinny Puppy, M Manson, S Westward. Call Adam at 617-699-2762, I have own PA.

SuperstarVox
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pick of the week

Raging Teens

SATURDAY: Picking up the flag for New England roots rockabilly — their name comes from a series compilations of wild '50s Yankee rock and roll — the Raging Teens are throwing a monster hillbilly-boogie dance party to celebrate the release of their fantastic new *Rock and Roll Party*. Deke Dickerson (who produced the disc) and his Ecco-fonics and the Jimmy Nations Combo join the Racketeers, the Bourbonaires, the Kings of Nuthin', the Starline Rhythm Boys, the Colonel and His Lucky Diamonds, the Konks, 13 Ghosts, King Memphis, the Bombastics, and Sean Mencher at the Middle East, 472 Mass Ave, Cambridge. It starts at noon and goes till 2 a.m.; it's 18-plus and $15. Call 864-EAST.

Edited by Carly Carioli

■ THURSDAY 15

ART. In conjunction with the Carpenter Center's "Love's Lust," an exhibit of works by the painter John Wesley, the critic and Yale prof Wayne Koestenbaum — known for his books on the oeuvre of Jackie O., and on the relationship between opera and homosexuality — shows up to offer **"Obscene Allegories in Praise of the Paintings of John Wesley."** Koestenbaum's lecture is this evening at 6 p.m.; the exhibit is up through February 25 at the Sert Gallery at Harvard's Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy Street in Cambridge. Call 495-3251.

WEB. Those clever new-media folks are behind the NEWD Awards ceremony tonight at Avalon — which is not the Adult Film Grammy awards, but instead sort of the Web Tonys or something. That'd be the **New England Web Design Awards**, and all sorts of innovative interactivity will be rewarded beginning at 6 p.m. at Avalon, 15 Lansdowne Street in Boston. Tickets are $25 and available only over the Web, at www.newdawards.com; call 535-4580 for more info.

■ FRIDAY 16

FILMS OPENING. You may sense a little déjà vu at the movie theaters this week as filmmakers look to the past for inspiration. A strong argument for reincarnation is ***Down to Earth*** by Chris and Paul Weitz (*American Pie*), a remake of 1978's *Heaven Can Wait* (which was a remake of 1941's *Here Comes Mr. Jordan*) starring Chris Rock as a dead comic who returns as a rich white guy whose wife is plotting to kill him. Pat O'Connor (*Dancing at Lughnasa*) remakes the 1968 romantic comedy ***Sweet November*** with Charlize Theron as a woman who ritually takes a new lover every month until Keanu Reeves makes her think twice. Such retreads might make Chuck Sheetz's ***Recess: School's Out***, a big-screen adaptation of the Saturday-morning animated TV series for and about pre-schoolers, actually seem like a fresh idea.

FILM. One of the most popular movie events at the Brattle Theatre is the **Bugs Bunny Film Festival**, now in its sixth year. This year's programs include **"Bugs, All Bugs and Nothing But the Bugs,"** featuring such gems as ***What's Up, Doc?*** and ***Carrotblanca***. It screens tonight, Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday at 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, and 10 p.m. (no 1 or 3:15 p.m. screenings on Friday). **"Bugs Bunny Meets Tasmanian Devil: A Looney Tunes Revue"** offers mini-masterpieces such as the Academy Award–winning ***For Scentimental Reasons*** (starring the irrepressible Pepe Le Pew) and, of course, Bugs and TD's classic face-off, ***Devil May Hare***. It screens on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 1, 3:15 5:30, 7:45, and 10 p.m. They're all at 40 Brattle Street in Harvard Square. Call 876-6837.

JAZZ. One of the last great jazz divas of her (or any) generation, **Abbey Lincoln** comes to Scullers for three nights. That's in the DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel, 400 Soldiers Field Road at the Mass Pike. Call 562-4111.

Abbey Lincoln

■ SATURDAY 17

BOOKS. It is a sign of the culture that a good many of our least partisan politicians, most progressive football conferences, and best-selling authors come from the world of professional wrestling. The mountain of muscle and mammary known as **Chyna** is the latest ring superstar to flex her writing pecs, with a memoir titled *If Only They Knew*. Talking points: "She attended flight school, but near the completion of the course, she was in a car accident in which two people were killed which caused her to change the course of her life"; "Her move to Massachusetts to live with her sister where she got a 60k a year job selling beepers to mostly seedy clientele"; "The truth about her cosmetic changes to her appearance — including the story of how her breast implants exploded during a match." One can only hope that Chyna's spread at Booksmith in Woburn this afternoon proves as successful as her pictorials in *Playboy*. Chyna signs her treatise from 1 to 3 p.m.; that's at the Woburn Mall, 300 Mishawum Road in, um, Woburn. Call (781) 938-0277.

Chyna

PUNK. Shannon Selberg, formerly the bugle-playing frontman of Minneapolis pig-fuckers the Cows, has a new group called **Heroine Sheiks**, who in turn have an album out called *Rape on the Installment Plan*. All signs point to provocative brutality, mayhem, Jesus Lizard–like inflammation of the soul, and other petty crimes. The band make their local debut at the Middle East tonight with Crack Torch and the Anomoanan. That's at 472 Mass Ave in Central Square. Call 864-EAST.

PERFORMANCE. New-age religious hucksters, homeless early-release mental patients, entertainment moguls, aging British rock stars, and other enraged species populate the monologuist-playwright-author Eric Bogosian's ***The Worst of Eric Bo-***

Continued on page 3

RAGING TEENS PHOTO BY BRUCE MYREN; DINING OUT AND ON THE CHEAP PHOTOS BY TED BAIRD; ILLUSTRATION BY SHANNON PALMER

CAMEL

PLEASURE TO BURN

SINCE 1913

CAMEL YOUR GUIDE TO URBAN NIGHTLIFE

• LIFESTYLE • AFICIONADO •

DJ TIM COLLINS

DJ Tim Collins worked his way into the DJ booth about four years ago. He used to be the manager of Bill's Bar and Karma until that fateful night when he filled in for an absent DJ and played disco and '80s hits. That was it! He was sold! He began spinning funk and soul on Wednesdays at Bill's Bar three years ago, and this past August he began playing Top 40 remixes every Friday night at Karma. Stop in on one of his busy nights and feel the spin.

THURSDAY

ARIA

246 Tremont St. 338-7080

Aria presents ***The Fashion Lounge*** featuring **DJ Roger M.** in the main room. Get a taste of ethereal delight with **DJ Thanos** and **DJ Yiannaki.** For table reservations, call Edyta at 783-7204.

EMBASSY

16 Lansdowne St. 536-2100

Embassy, Avalon and The Modern present ***International Thursdays Latin Lounge.*** The biggest international night in the country has been a Boston tradition for more than a decade. **DJ Anthony** spins Latin house. Doors open at 10pm.

FRIDAY

PRAVDA 116

116 Boylston St. 482-7799

Experience the truth about Pravda 116, Boston's hottest nightclub. **DJ Mario** creates a high-energy atmosphere spinning current dance mixes. Proper dress required. Doors open at 10pm.

KARMA

9 Lansdowne St. 421-9595

American Karma features **DJ Tim Collins** spinning Top 40 remixes that uplift and refresh. Nothing compares to a shot of good Karma. Doors open at 10pm.

MANRAY

21 Brookline Ave. 864-0406

Strap on your kinky clothes and make your way over to ***Fantasy Factory*** during ***Fetish Fridays.*** Lock yourself in the cage as **DJ Chris Ewen** spins industrial beats. Move into the front if you'd like to hear **DJ Brad Gwynn** spin trance.

SATURDAY

AVALON

15 Lansdowne St. 262-2424

Go to ***Downtown*** at Avalon and listen to **DJ Manolo** spinning progressive house. It's Boston's biggest Saturday night with special guest DJs and over-the-top décor. You'll definitely enjoy this night on the town. Doors open at 10pm.

SUGAR SHACK

1 Boylston Pl. 351-2510

The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi Gras all year long with carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks and DJs playing the best tracks from the last three decades. The Shack is the home of Boston's best parties with **DJ Jonesy** spinning Top 40.

AN TUA NUA

835 Beacon St. 262-2121

There is something for everyone at An Tua Nua. It's a bar, a restaurant and a nightclub. Check out **DJ Ren Justice** spinning dance, hip-hop and Top 40 hits. Don't miss this dance party!

SUNDAY

BISHOP'S PUB

21 Boylston Pl. 351-2583

Relax in the pub with friends or meet new ones in the casual, friendly atmosphere. You pick the music from a jukebox loaded with hits, both old and new. Catch the game on the big screen and savor a pint.

JILLIAN'S

145 Ipswich St. 437-0300

With over 70,000 square ft. of fun, excitement and food, there's nothing in Boston that compares to Jillian's. Play video games, darts or pool before grabbing a drink and a tasty bite to eat. It's all here! Stop in this weekend and discover why more than one million people visit Jillian's each and every year.

MONDAY

AXIS

13 Lansdowne St. 262-2437

DJ Jay Ine creates ***Static*** spinning progressive house. **Mizery** performs her midnight drag show with sidekicks, **Ms. Chris** and **Sabina.** Creative dress is strongly encouraged. Doors open at 10pm.

TUESDAY

THE INTERNATIONAL

184 High St. 542-4747

"Where Boston meets the world." Located in the heart of the Financial District, The International is the place to party or relax and grab a drink. Meet your co-workers for lunch or entertainment at night.

WEDNESDAY

BILL'S BAR

5 Lansdowne St. 421-9595

Check out ***Funk and Groove Wednesdays*** at Bill's Bar. **DJ Tim Collins** spins funk and soul and live bands perform weekly. See why Bill's Bar has the best local bands in the city. Doors open at 9pm.

ATLAS
5 Lansdowne St. 437-0300
No attitude and today's hottest music can be found at ***Atlas Dance*** every Friday and Saturday.

LAVA BAR
575 Commonwealth Ave.
267-7707
Erupt with pleasure from the spectacular penthouse view and dance all night.

VERTIGO
126 State St. 723-7277
This trendy Financial District hotspot offers a classy lounge upstairs and a funky club downstairs.

FAJITAS AND 'RITAS
25 West St. 426-1222
This fun restaurant and bar features reasonably priced, healthy Tex-Mex cuisine.

THE BLUE CAT CAFE
94 Massachusetts Ave.
247-9922
Check out this trendy jazz bar, offering mixed drinks that will excite your taste buds.

THE LINWOOD
69 Kilmarnock St. 267-8644
Hang out with all the hottest up-and-coming rock bands in Boston.

PHOENIX LANDING
512 Massachusetts Ave.
576-6260
Meet your friends, grab a drink and discover underground beats three nights a week.

JACQUE'S
79 Broadway St. 426-8902
Get your kicks at Jacque's. Call for reservations.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP
130 Brighton Ave. 254-1331
Try one of the 112 beers on tap or one of their 300 microbrews.

CAMEL CACHE

What makes CAMEL Turkish Gold so smooth? Pick up a pack at one of the CAMEL Clubs to find out!

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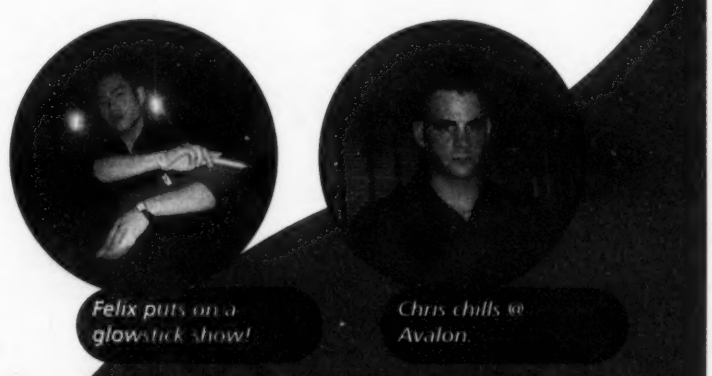
Camel sponsored events are restricted to those 21 years of age or older.



SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking By Pregnant Women May Result in Fetal Injury, Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.

TURKISH GOLD: 10 mg. "tar", 0.8 mg. nicotine, av. per cigarette by FTC method.

state of the art

Tom Verlaine: Music for Film

As leader of the '70s NYC art-punk band Television, Tom Verlaine sang with a voice whose timbre could charitably be described as strident. Lucky for him, he's a preternaturally gifted guitarist who's able to communicate emotion and mood via sinewy, inventive guitar leads. Lucky for us, when Verlaine swings by the Museum of Fine Arts on February 16 to perform live scores for a program of early-20th-century avant-garde silent short films, there will be no singing — but lots of effects-abetted fretwork.

For the program, Verlaine and session man Jimmy Ripp — the only guitar player Verlaine has worked with, he says, since Television — will perform Verlaine's scores along with the films, which range from the French Cubist painter Fernand Léger's 1924 *Ballet mechanique* to a 1943 traffic-safety film from Denmark made by Carl Theodor Dryer. The music, Verlaine says over the phone from his New York City apartment, "is not written out note for note, [but] it is scored in that we both know what we're going to do." He adds: "I guess I do more improvising than Jim does — he's sort of the guide at this point, because I sometimes improvise over things that I've asked him to play."

"I write a lot more instrumental music than I do vocal music," Verlaine says. "It's because I come out of a background of playing piano and then playing sax for a number of years. I kind of got into rock backwards. A lot of guys go into rock and then get sick of it and then go into something else. I came the other way, so I've always just had a lot more stuff lying around."

Verlaine also scored the 1994 indie *Love and a .45*, as well as some German shorts in the late '80s where the director's request

was, "I want the music to never stop." Asked if that work informed his approach here, Verlaine hesitates. "I guess in the sense that the music was nonstop and that it had to fit certain scenes — or I thought it should. I mean, I think there are other people doing this today who basically jam with the film in the background. I don't know how interesting that is for a crowd to see."

Indeed, Verlaine worked meticulously to match appropriately evocative scores to each piece. Of Man Ray's impressionistic shorts "Star of the Sea" and "Emak-Bakia," Verlaine says, "Those are the most scored from section to section, because [Ray] changes quite a bit in and out of a kind of sadness to a kind of humor." Of James Sibley Watson's 1928 adaptation of Edgar Allan Poe's *The Fall of the House of Usher*: "That one's the most abstract, eerie one, for sure. Also the one where guitars are in a way emulating violins or strange organs and stuff. That one has a lot more effects. More toward the odd spectrum, I guess." And of Dryer's Danish traffic-safety feature *They Caught the Ferry*, which transcends its utility and becomes a stirring meditation on mortality, he says that the score is "nostalgic," but also "one of the most rock, in a way — at least the second half of it."

Verlaine likes the idea of matching innovative guitar textures with films that, though they're old, haven't lost their dynamic appeal with the passing of decades. "People were experimenting for the first time with what a camera can do," he says of the period. "With all the digital technology and stuff going on now, some of the effects in these films are still pretty cool. Y'know, they're beautiful . . . funny . . . really interesting." Just add music.

"Tom Verlaine: Music for Film" is presented at the Museum of Fine Arts' Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Avenue in Boston, this Friday at 8 p.m. Tickets $15; call 369-3770.

— Mike Miliard

8 days a week

THURSDAY 15: One of the most surprisingly worthwhile bands to come out of the mostly skin-deep ska revival of the mid '90s has been the Slackers, whose discs on Rancid's Hellcat imprint have displayed a depth, breadth, and all-around tenacity for rock steady, roots reggae, dub, and ska that's pretty much unmatched among their new-wave peers. The band's latest, *Wasted Days*, sports warm and seedy production values harking back to Jamaica in the '70s, while also bringing an infusion of deep American '60s-style soul, rhythm-and-blues grit, and even a fascinating detour into pedal-steel-laced country-dub cross-pollination. None of which even begins to describe their cover of Bon Jovi's "Dead or Alive." Check out the Slackers as they kick off a national tour in support of *Wasted Days* tonight at Bill's Bar, 421-9678.

Continued from the cover

gosian, a concert-style hodgepodge of his finest characters, rants, and bits, which makes a one-off stop tonight at 8 p.m. at the Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square in Somerville. Tickets are $25 and $30; call 876-4275.

ART ROCK. The **Residents**' quarter-century reign of anonymous rock-and-roll weirdness — they're the guys with the eyeballs in place of their heads — is both unprecedented and, to their credit, enduringly inexplicable. Their cult of anti-personality is on display this evening at the Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass Ave in Boston. Call 931-2000.

■ SUNDAY 18

ART. In what's billed as the most prestigious printmaking expo in the Northeast, Boston University hosts the 2001 North American Print Biennial, featuring the juried work of more than 100 artists in woodcuts, engraving and etching, lithography, and silk screening. The exhibit opens today with a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. and runs through April 18. That's at BU's 808 Gallery, 808 Commonwealth Avenue. Call 358-0922.

The Brush Art Gallery in Lowell presents another of its investigations into the art of that city's immigrant communities with **"Home? Crosscurrents in Contemporary South Asian/American Art."** The group show, accompanied by documentary video of Lowell's Asian Indian community, opens today with a reception from 2 to 4 p.m., and runs through April 15. That's at 256 Market Street in Lowell; call (978) 459-7819.

■ MONDAY 19

ROCK. The up-and-coming wing of regional progressive neo-metal shows up tonight at Bill's Bar. **Trustfall** identify with the Deftones/A Perfect Circle faction, as evidenced on a new Wonderdrug-distributed EP. They're on a brief tour with recently reconfigured fellow Wonderdrug affiliates **Colepitz**, the Maine metalcore outfit. **Simple** and **All Parallels** open up. That's at 5 Lansdowne Street in Boston; call 421-9678.

■ TUESDAY 20

POP. Backstreet Boy Nick Carter's little brother, **Aaron Carter**, is quite the heartthrob — he started at the age of seven and is now an old hand with three albums under his belt (which is to say as many as BSB themselves),

Continued on page 4

road tripping

Educated rappers have been skulking around hip-hop since, well, UTFO's Educated Rapper struck out with Roxanne. But the Brown-educated, white, Jewish Prince Paul protégé **Paul Barman** has become a poster boy for the MC as a wiseass *cum laude*-mouth — and his association with the Matador label is more proof that indie hip-hop occupies the same psychic space as indie rock did a dozen years ago. Barman's on a tour with another Matador hip-hop act, **Dälek**, which brings both to the Met Café (401-861-2142) in Providence this Thursday, February 15; to Pearl Street (413-584-0610) in Northampton — with illbient techno egghead **DJ Spooky** — on Friday; to the Oxfam Café at Tufts University (628-5000) on Saturday; and to Toad's Place (203-624-8623) in New Haven, Connecticut, on Sunday. No less schooled in the lessons of rhyme and reason are **Mobb Deep**, who join **Capone-N-Noreaga** and **12 Inch Assassins** in the unlikely suburban confines of Fitchburg's Wallace Civic Center (978-345-7300) on Friday.

Paul Barman

In metal: on Friday, Hydrahead avant-doom lords **Isis** join Easthampton's Flywheel Arts Collective (413-527-9800) with **Deivic**, **Harmatia**, **Thirteenmiledrive**, and **Erebus** — a contingent of troops from some strange Western Mass parallel universe where speed metal tag-teams with emo. Isis themselves are a wholly different beast, or maybe two beasts: depending on their mood, slow, gargantuan, devastatingly heavy maul rats or surgical, introspectively sinister black-lab chemists. You can also catch Isis on Sunday with **As the Sun Sets**, **Backstabbers Inc.**, and **August Prophecy** at the Living Room (401-521-5200) in Providence. You could give props to **Downset** for having kept rap-metal on life-support during the lean years between *Judgment Night* and Limp Bizkit, but then you'd be obscuring one painful fact: Downset really weren't very good. Perhaps they've gotten better, or maybe expectations have simply decreased, because they're still alive and gigging at the Palladium (508-797-9696) in Worcester on Saturday and at Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel (401-272-5876) on Sunday, both nights with **Factory 81** and **Relative Ash**.

Honky-tonk showman **Deke Dickerson**, in town to join his protégés the **Raging Teens** for their record-release party extravaganza at the Middle East (864-EAST) on Saturday, stops by the Green Room (401-351-7665) in Providence on Sunday. The Detroit punk-blues duo **White Stripes** join the junked-up Lower East Side no-wave/country-punk supergroup **Knoxville Girls** for gigs at the Met Café on Wednesday and at the Middle East next Thursday, February 22. Across town on the 22nd, the **Mighty Mighty Bosstones** play Lupo's.

From north of the border: the quiet and shadowy Canadian instrumental group **White Star Line** — more Black Heart Procession than Godspeed You Black Emperor — are at Flywheel with **Tiger Saw** and **27** on February 18 and at the Fishtown Artspace (978-283-1381) in Gloucester with Tiger Saw, **Brian King**, and **Buxton** on February 19. Meanwhile, the estimable Canadian folk-pop duo **Kate & Anna McGarrigle** hit the Iron Horse Music Hall (413-584-0610) in Northampton this Thursday, February 15, and Harvard University's Sanders Theatre (876-4275) on Friday the 16th.

— CC

8 days a week

FRIDAY: They pretty much set the framework for cinéma vérité, if not reality TV. Pioneering documentarians Albert Maysles and his late brother David will be celebrated at Boston University with a retrospective of their films, including the rarely screened *What's Happening! The Beatles in the U.S.A.* (1964), a candid, endearing, behind-the-scenes look at the Fab Four and a rough-edged companion piece to the recently re-released *A Hard Day's Night*. Less sunny is *Gimme Shelter* (1970, in photo), perhaps the most frightening rock-and-roll film ever made: intended as a tour film, it became a harrowing documentary of the Rolling Stones' disastrous Altamont concert, and in turn it's a tuneful epitaph to the optimism of the 1960s. See Hell's Angels beat the Jefferson Airplane unconscious! See a man stabbed to death while the Stones play "Sympathy for the Devil"! Both films screen at 7:30 p.m. at the College of Arts and Sciences, Room B12, 725 Commonwealth Avenue. Albert Maysles will appear at the screenings, which will be followed by a reception. Call 353-2948.

Gimme Shelter

Continued from page 3

not to mention the distinction of being the youngest male artist ever to have four Top 40 singles to his credit. His middle-school following skews too young even to call his work teen pop — when we say he's all about the kids, we mean honest-to-goodness lunch-box-toting tots. The kids will have their say when Carter's tour makes its way to Avalon, 15 Lansdowne Street in Boston, tonight. Call 423-NEXT.

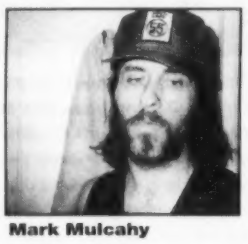
Aaron Carter

THEATER. The geriatric Australian cross-dressing sensation **Dame Edna** brings ***The Royal Tour*** to Boston's Wilbur Theatre for a three-week run beginning tonight. (See our preview in Arts.) That's at 246 Tremont Street in Boston; call 931-2787 for tickets.

ROCK. Vancouver was never, as far as we know, hyped as the "New Seattle" back in the alternative '90s — it was the Halifax scene that ended up with that ridiculous cross to bear. But the teeming capital of British Columbia did produce some decent underground bands, including the retro-poppy Zumpano and, well, a bunch of others that nobody outside Vancouver has ever heard of. A bunch of people from those bands, including Zumpano's Carl Newman, have teamed up with buzzed-about American insurgent country gal **Neko Case** as the **New Pornographers**, a vaguely new-wavy outfit with a new disc, *Mass Romantic*, out on the Vancouver indie Mint, and a show tonight at the Middle East, 480 Mass Ave in Central Square. Call 864-EAST.

New Pornographers

In a little less than a month, former Miracle Legion singer **Mark Mulcahy**, whom some Nickelodeon watchers may remember from the band in *The Adventures of Pete and Pete*, will be releasing his second solo album, *Smile-Sunset*, on his own Mezzotint label. Mulcahy has never really abandoned the very Michael Stipe mysterioso-romantic persona that, along with some rather jangly guitar riffs and good dose of melancholy, got Miracle Legion pegged as a poor man's R.E.M. way back in the mid '80s. Which probably has something to do with why he continues to be a cult star in England, and why Thom Yorke's rumored to be a big, big fan. Also, for the first time in Mulcahy's long career, he can confidently claim that he's writing much better songs than R.E.M., which is a nice little bonus. He's at the Kendall Café tonight as part of Orbit drummer Paul Buckley's Tuesday Night Music Club series. That's at 233 Cardinal Medeiros Drive in Cambridge. Call 661-0993.



Mark Mulcahy

future perfect

THE BIG OUT: By now, the great bassist William Parker has become an old friend on the Boston improv scene, what with his regular stops here alongside fellow New Yorkers David S. Ware, Matthew Shipp, and others. Now Parker is making his first US tour with his 15-piece Little Huey Creative Music Orchestra, a windswept blend of original compositions and free blowing, featuring a cast of heavy hitters from the New York scene. Parker strikes up the band February 23 at the Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston Street, at 8 p.m. Tickets are $12. Call 868-3172.

William Parker

BANGING HEADS: While mainstream heavy metal has enjoyed an explosion of package tours, the underground metal circuit has built up a string of European-style festivals — a kind of floating craps game that brings the genre's biggest players together in a few key markets each spring. We're lucky enough to boast one of a half-dozen such events in the third annual New England Hardcore and Metal Festival, which brings the Venom-loving death/grind/black-metal faithful to the Worcester Palladium on April 13 and 14. Headlining the metal event of the year are those unhallowed princes of gore metal, Cannibal Corpse, but for the first time this year the line-up has a big helping of the reclusive Euro-metal the kids are all agog about, including Dimmu Borgir and Meshuggah. More than 50 bands have been announced for the two-day, multi-stage blowout, including Nile, the Haunted, Lamb of God, Catastrophic, Malevolent Creation, Iced Earth, Amorphis, Opeth, Shadows Fall, Dying Fetus, Gorguts, Zao, and the Berzerker. Tickets go on sale this Friday at 10 a.m.; call (800) 477-6849.

next weekend

Ritual Recordings

We're at a really weird place in terms of dance music," observes Matthew Sordillo, founder of the Boston-based label Ritual Recordings, "but it's really good as well. I see the main dance styles merging together. I mean, more and more records are really hard to classify." That includes Ritual's output, which slyly blurs the boundaries between house, techno, and trance. The label has spawned excellent releases by hometown artists (DKMA, Universal Tongues) as well as out-of-towners like Pete Moss and Kid Scientific. And Ritual's output has garnered props from well-known house DJs like Doc Martin, David Alvarado, and Jesper Dahlback, all of which has begun to raise Boston's music profile. Next Thursday, Ritual celebrates its fifth disc — the sensual and moody *Rotation* EP by New York DJ/producer Casey Hogan — with a record-release party featuring sets by Hogan and Sordillo at Axis.

Walsh, Sordillo, and Englehardt

In the ever-splintering, hard-to-classify world of electronic music, everything is — paradoxically — meticulously categorized, compartmentalized, and labeled. Ritual's releases are usually dubbed "tech-house" — a small but growing micro-genre that is, as its moniker suggests, an amalgam of techno and house. But pinning down exactly what that mix sounds like isn't easy.

"Tech-house is a really ambiguous term," agrees Sordillo. "It can be used to describe tracks that are deep and moody, as well as harder and more aggressive music. I like the term because it doesn't state anything too specific, but it hints that we're trying to do something new and different."

As Sordillo suggests, you'll never get a roomful of DJs to agree on exactly what tech-house is, though the Ritual discography offers a pretty good example. Contrasting minimalist arrangements with lush backdrops, dry kick drums with dubby ornaments, electroshock waves with Afro-percussion, and acoustic flourishes with acid burns, their releases contrast the utopian sound of deep-house producers like Masters at Work with darker, dystopian flourishes snagged from early Detroit techno and Chicago house. It's all presented in an ultra-clean package: the crystalline, crackling highs reverberating against muted, ambient tones. Dance floors, in effect, get the best of three worlds: trance's hypnotic thump and epic scope; techno's intense locomotion and clinical beat surgery; and house music's earthy funk and misty backdrops.

Sordillo, who managed the Boston dance-music specialty shop Satellite Records for a few years, started Ritual with partners Mike Walsh and Fran Englehardt in 1999. They hoped to make a mark on the small domestic tech-house scene and to bring some attention to Boston. "We [in Boston] have really good DJs and producers," argues Sordillo, "but we don't have much of a reputation as far as the dance-music industry is concerned. I want to make Boston recognized nationwide."

Though the city is becoming a far more welcoming place for electronic music — new club nights are popping up every month — the local DJ scene still pales in comparison to those in New York, San Francisco, and Chicago. Which, according to Sordillo, isn't necessarily a bad thing. "If we were located in New York, we'd be competing with tons of other labels. In Boston, we're one of the few in town, which makes it a lot easier."

Ritual Recordings' CD-release party for Casey Hogan's Rotation *is next Thursday, February 22, at Axis, 13 Lansdowne Street in Boston. Call 262-2437.*

— Michael Endelman

■ WEDNESDAY 21

FILM. Under the indefatigable tutelage of David Kleiler, the **Boston Underground Film Festival** has grown in three years into a major local film event. It kicks off today at its new venue, General Cinema's Fenway Theatre, 201 Brookline Avenue, at 7:30 p.m. with a program of shorts including Guy Maddin's highly acclaimed ***Heart of the World***. Across the river in Somerville, the festival's opening-night party takes place at Lilli's in Somerville with music by the local pop bands **Bowman**, **Mishima**, and **Drag Strip Courage**. Call 975-3361.

JAZZ. Of all the bassists in town, **Bob Nieske** is one of the most reliable and most adventurous, capable of driving a little big band (the Either/Orchestra), an Indian raga-jazz combo (Natraj), or his own attractive compositions. In his latest successful experiment, he mixes his Bob Nieske 3 (trumpeter Phil Grenadier and drummer Nat Mugavero) with the Lydian String Quartet. As dicey as that sounds, the title of their new album, *Simplicity* (Accurate), says it: this is rich, complex, swinging music with textures as clear as water. (See our review in Off the Record, in Arts.) Bob and the gang do it at the Regattabar in the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett Street, Harvard Square. Call 876-7777.

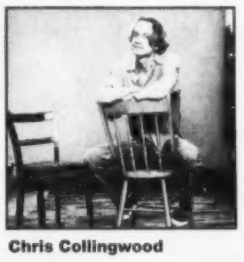
BOOKS. It's a memoir! It's a war journal! It's a love story! In *Shutterbabe: Adventures in Love and War* (Villard), **Deborah Copaken Kogan** chronicles her transformation from fresh-faced Harvard grad to globe-trotting war photojournalist with adventures in Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, Romania, Russia, and Haiti. It's a mine-strewn path that includes some very nasty love affairs along the way. Kogan talks about her adventures and shows some of her photography at Harvard's Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy Street in Harvard Square, at 7:30 p.m. It's free and open to the public. Call 495-3251.

Deborah Copaken Kogan

■ THURSDAY 22

JAZZ. Two of the world's most esteemed string players, British bassist **Barry Guy** and Swiss violinist **Maya Homburger**, make a rare US appearance at Mass College of Art. Guy is notable as a composer, jazz player, free improviser, and big man on the European art-music scene. Homburger is a Baroque-violin specialist who's worked with John Eliot Gardiner and Christopher Hogwood as well as with Guy. At tonight's show, Guy will solo, and then he and Homburger will perform as a duo. That's at 621 Huntington Avenue at 8 p.m. Tickets are $10. Call 441.0563.

POP. We're hoping that **Chris Collingwood**'s solo show upstairs tonight at the Middle East isn't a sign that Fountains of Wayne, the band he started with songwriter/guitarist Adam Schlesinger when he left Boston for NYC in the mid '90s, are thinking about calling it quits. The band put out two remarkably good albums in the '90s, filled with wry and occasionally wistful guitar-powered pop gems that brought to mind the Lemonheads at their peak, minus Evan Dando's dysfunctional nonsense. And it would be a shame if we didn't get a third from FOW. The nice thing about getting Collingwood solo is that there's a pretty good chance he'll dip back into the catalogue of country tunes he wrote when he was playing in a rootsy outfit called Mercy Buckets back in his Boston days. That's at 472 Mass Ave in Central Square. Call 864-EAST.



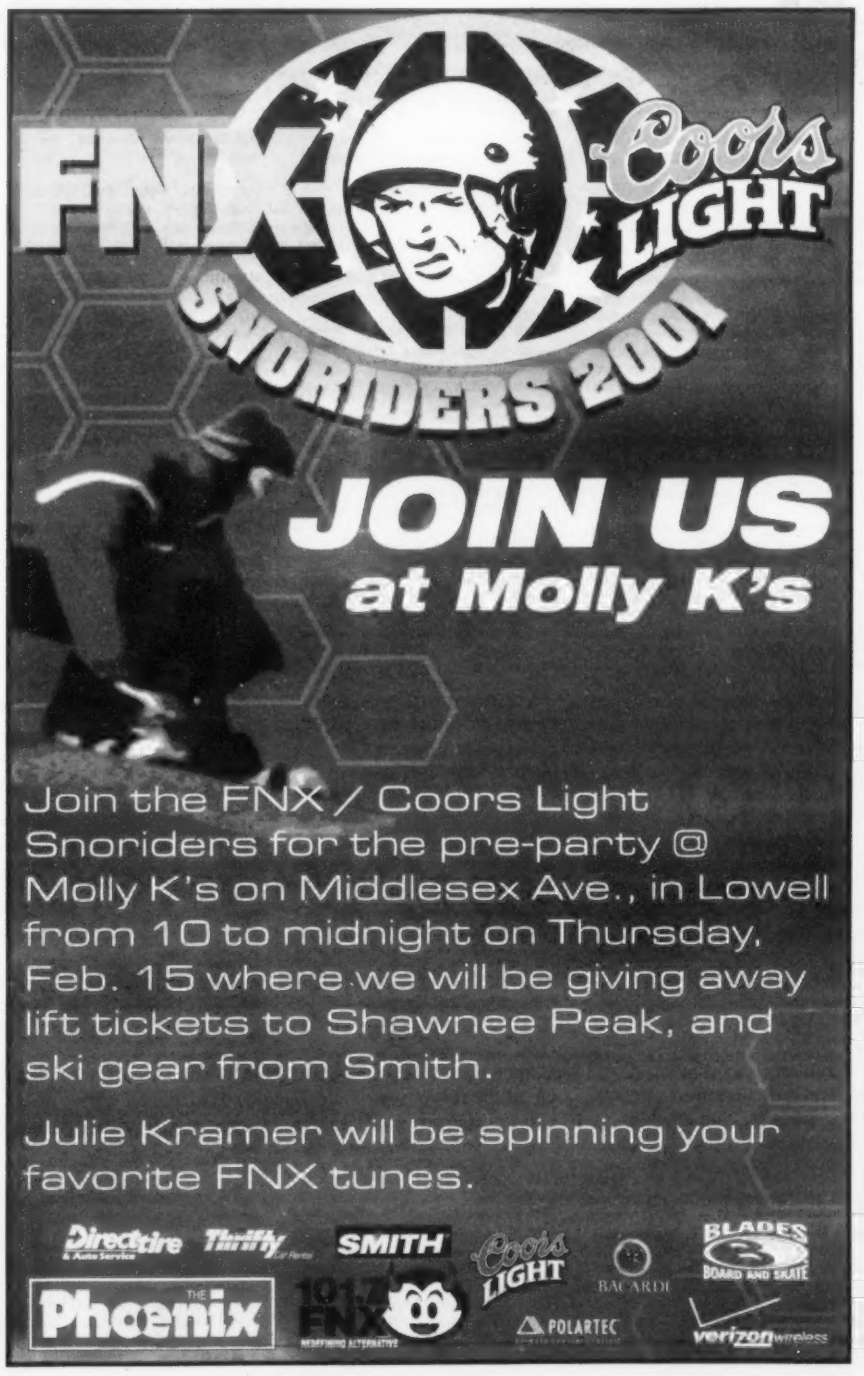
Chris Collingwood

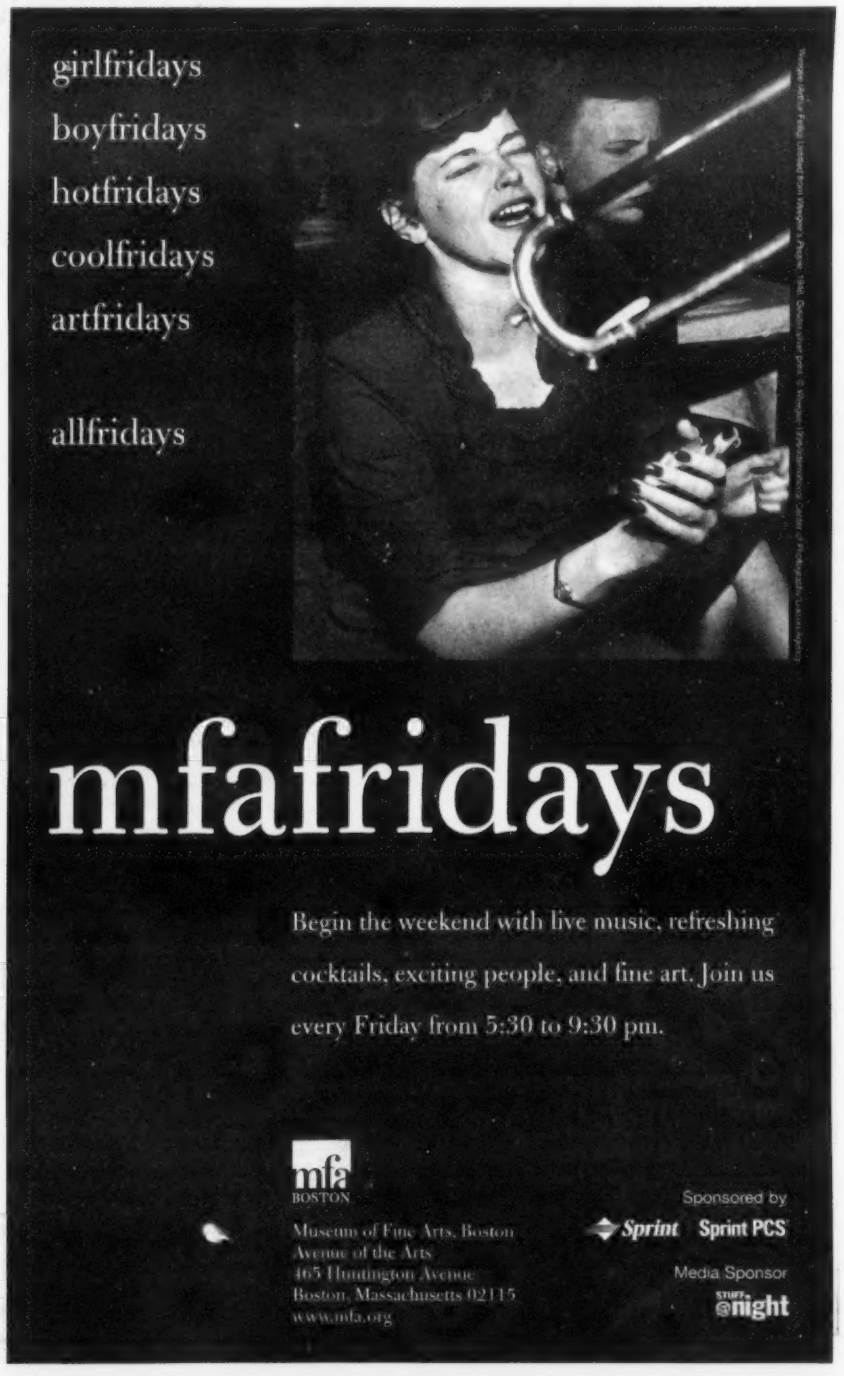
Erykah Badu

SATURDAY: With her "Bag Lady" up for a pair of Grammys, Erykah Badu — boho earth mother number one, pomo soul sister supreme — brings her lithe, austere, neo-Holiday love bazaar to the Orpheum Theatre tonight behind her sophomore studio effort, *Mama's Gun*. Showtime is 7:30 p.m.; the Orpheum's at 1 Hamilton Place in Boston. Tickets are $36 to $56; call 931-2000.

■ AND BEYOND

POP. The **Push Stars** and **Jess Klein** combine forces for a double dose of classic guitar pop and contemporary folksy charm at the Somerville Theatre on February 24 at 8 p.m. That's at 55 Davis Square in Somerville; tickets are $15. Call 628-3390.


FNX
Coors LIGHT
SNORIDERS 2001
JOIN US
at Molly K's
Join the FNX / Coors Light Snoriders for the pre-party @ Molly K's on Middlesex Ave., in Lowell from 10 to midnight on Thursday, Feb. 15 where we will be giving away lift tickets to Shawnee Peak, and ski gear from Smith.
Julie Kramer will be spinning your favorite FNX tunes.
Directtire & Auto Service
Thrifty Car Rental
SMITH
Coors LIGHT
BACARDI
BLADES BOARD AND SKATE
Phoenix
101.7 FNX
POLARTEC
verizon wireless



CLUBS

THE ORIGINAL
HOUSE OF BLUES
Award-Winning Restaurant & Live Music Venue
96 Winthrop St. - Harvard Square - 617-497-2229 - www.hob.com

Thursday February 15 10pm 21+
Former Maceo Parker Organist
LARRY GOLDINGS TRIO

Friday February 16 10pm 21+
Saturday February 17 10pm 21+
JIMMY SMITH

Sunday February 18 9pm 18+
STEVIE RAY VAUGHAN TRIBUTE

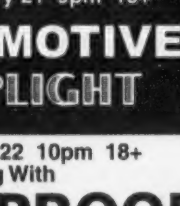
Monday February 19 9pm 18+
UNCLE TROUBLE

Tuesday February 20 9pm 18+
UMPHREY'S McGEE

Wednesday February 21 9pm 18+
THE JINX MOTIVE
plus STEPLIGHT

Thursday February 22 10pm 18+
An Evening With
ACTUAL PROOF

Friday February 23 10pm 21+
LARRY McCRAY



EXPERIENCE SUNDAY GOSPEL BRUNCH
SEATINGS EVERY SUNDAY AT 10AM-NOON-2PM

THE BLACK HORSE TAVERN/ DURGIN PARK
Thu, Feb 15
Ottie
(from Nom de Plume)
Fri, Feb 16
Joe Bargar
Sat, Feb 17
Sky Blues
Thu, Feb 22
Dan & Nick
(from Apartment Three)

TOOTSIE
@ The End Zone
Foxboro, MA
Friday Feb 16th!
@ Club Liquid
Leominster, MA Sat Feb 17th
tootsierock.com

THE WESTERN FRONT
343 Western Ave, Cambridge
Boston's Only True Reggae Club
FEB 16 + 17
ARK BAND
FROM COLUMBUS OHIO
REGGAE
FEB 23 + 24
JUNIOR JAZZ
REGGAE
MAR 2+3
DANNY TUCKER
REGGAE
MAR 9+10
CONSCIOUS BAND
REGGAE
MAR 16 + 17
TRIBE OF DJEMBE
REGGAE
FINE JAMAICAN FOOD
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cheap covers, booze & billiards
69 Kilmarnock St. (617) 267-8644
THU. FEB. 15
INDU
SUPER KOLLIDER
LAST STEP
FRI. FEB. 16
EVERY SECOND • OHM
CONTROLLED AGGRESSION
SAT. FEB. 17
TBA
WED. FEB 21
BOSTON UNPLUGGED
THU. FEB. 22
CURRENT • LEIGH
JUNIPER'S DAUGHTER
FRI. FEB. 23
KITTY KILL • KIPPERTIN
MOXIE STAR PARK
SAT. FEB. 24
CHRISSI POLAND
RIGHT NEXT DOOR
THE LINWOOD
Grill & Barbecue
SOULFUL AMERICAN FOOD
RIBS • SOUTHERN SUNDAY BRUNCH
SALADS • GRILLED STEAKS
ICE COLD BEER • HOMEMADE PIES
SPECIALTY DRINKS • TAKE-OUT
FREE PARKING
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(off Boylston behind Star Market)

Bill's BAR • LOUNGE
Lansdowne's BEST Rock Bar
55 LANSDOWNE ST
FOR INFO 421.9678
WWW.DLCLIVE.COM/BILLS.HTML

Thursday February 15
THE UNDERGROUND
W/ DJ MARK HAMILTON
THE SLACKERS
VENICE SHORELINE CHRIS
BLACK MARKET MEDALLIONS
BLACK ICE

Friday February 16
MILLER GENUINE DRAFT PRESENTS:
GRAVEL PIT
CONTROL GROUP
MS. PIGEON

Saturday February 17
KARMA CLUB
ALL AGES - 2PM
MAJOR ACCIDENT
THE TEMPLARS
THE UNSEEN
APA
FOREIGN LEGION
TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH NEXT TIX.

Sunday February 18
reggae sunday
W/ DJ K-DON
HOLY SMOKE
W/ SPECIAL GUESTS

Monday February 19
MONSTA MONDAYS
w/ DJ KAPT KRUNCH
TRUSTFALL
COLEPITZ w/ SIMPLE
ALL PARALLELS

Wednesday February 21
Hip Hop Live:
UNDERGROUND HIP HOP.COM
1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Thursday February 22
THE UNDERGROUND
W/ DJ MARK HAMILTON
CLUTCH GRABWELL
T-HOUSE OF THE ALMIGHTY
(CD RELEASE)
VIRGIL CAIN

Friday February 23
MILLER GENUINE DRAFT PRESENTS:
MISSING JOE
RANE
JADED SALINGERS

Sunday February 25
SPECIAL ALL AGES SHOW
DOORS @ 2PM
THE STRYDER
PRIZEFIGHTER
AROUND THE WORLD
FAKE ID
THEN @ 10PM
reggae sunday
W/ DJ K-DON
SHOWCASE NIGHT

Monday February 26
MONSTA MONDAYS
w/ DJ KAPT KRUNCH
SPECIMEN X
MEKANIZM
CHAINSAWS & CHILDREN

Wednesday February 28
DRUM & BASS LIVE
SYNDROME
SCHISM
DUMMY PLUG CONSPIRACY

listings

THE DUBNIKS *play a CD-release party at the Middle East this Thursday, February 15.*

To place a listing: bring it or send it to Listings, Boston Phoenix, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston 02215, at least eight days before the issue in which it would appear. Listings can also be faxed to 859-8201. We can't take any listings over the phone. There is no charge, but your copy may be rewritten due to space limitations. Include the time of the event (or the hours that a gallery or museum is open to the public), date, place, a description of the event, how much it costs, and a phone number that can be published. Specify whether admission is free; listings will not be published without price information. If the information is for an event or exhibit lasting more than one week, specify the dates of the issues in which you would like the listing to appear. Repeat listings may be deleted due to space limitations.

Theater listings are separate; send them by 2 p.m on Thursday to "Play by Play". Auditions, classes, religious services, reunions, and events requiring advance registration are not listed here: call Phoenix Classifieds at 859-3300 to take out an ad. Unsolicited photographs are considered for publication but are not returned to senders.

NOTE: ABSOLUTE LISTINGS DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY AT 5 P.M. FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK'S ISSUE. To be considered for "Hot Tix," the deadline is a week earlier; to be considered for "Next Weekend," two weeks earlier.

clubs

THURSDAY 15

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE, Somerville. Coots, Red Chord, Bourbon Princess.
ACTON JAZZ CAFE, Acton. "Blues Jam" with Mike Avery & Lenny Ball.
AN TUA NUA, Boston. Hip-hop and Top 40 with DJ Ren Justice.
ARIA, Boston. Eurohaus and Latin house with DJs Eddy K and J.C.
AVALON, Boston. At 10 p.m., "International Thursdays," Eurohaus with DJ Manolo.
AXIS, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Chrome," house with DJs Steve Lawler, Ali Ajami, and Fran plus special guest DJ Jerry Bonham.
BILL'S BAR, Boston. At 9 p.m., "Underground Thursday" with DJ Mark Hamilton plus special guests Slackers, Venice Shoreline Chris, Black Market Medallions, Black Ice.
BLACKBURN TAVERN, Gloucester. Spirit House.
BLACK HORSE TAVERN, Boston. Nom de Plume.
BLACKTHORNE TAVERN, S. Easton. Lori McKenna.
BOB THE CHEF'S, Boston. Nat Simpkins.
THE BURREN, Somerville. Front Room: "Irish Seisiun."
CANTAB LOUNGE/THIRD RAIL, Cambridge. Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers.
CAVEAU WINE BISTRO, Boston. Michael Herklots Quartet.
CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN NATICK, Natick. "Acoustic Open Mic" with host Oen Kennedy.
CLUB BOHEMIA/KIRKLAND CAFE, Somerville. Tokyo Tramps, Somerville Bottle Openers, Dumb It Down.
CLUB PASSIM, Cambridge. Rockwell Church, Ashley Filip.
COLONIAL INN, Concord. John Fitzsimmons.
COMMON GROUND, Allston. DJ Cadillac.
CONTINENTAL, Saugus. Al Vega Trio.
DICK'S LAST RESORT, Boston. Lonely Gus & the One Night Stand.
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL, Salem. Liquid Plaid.
DRUID PUB, Cambridge. House with DJ Doug Nice.
EMBASSY, Boston. At 10 p.m., "International Thursdays," Latin house with DJ Anthony.
ENCORE, Boston. Michelle Currie.
EUROPA, Boston. "Absolute," house & trance with DJ Stezo.
THE EXCHANGE, Boston. "Heaven & Hell," house and hip-hop with DJs Chaos and 7L.
GREEN DRAGON, Boston. Spitting Vinnies.
GREEN STREET GRILL, Cambridge. "Latin Night."
HARD ROCK CAFE, Boston. Jerry Martin.
HARPERS FERRY, Allston. Slipknot.
HARRY'S TOO RESTAURANT, Westborough. Patrice Williamson.
HIBERNIA, Boston. At 6 p.m., trip-hop with DJ Jeremy. At 10 p.m., "Food," down-tempo and house.
HOUSE OF BLUES, Cambridge. Larry Goldings Trio.
IRISH EMBASSY PUB, Boston. Return.
JIMBO'S SOUTH COMEDY SHOW, Braintree. Paul Gilligan, Annette Pollack, Mark Riley, Brian Toland, Chris Fucile, Tom Caswell.
JIMMY O'KEEFE'S, Boston. DJ Macca.
JOHNNY D'S, Somerville. Ben Swift, Michael Fracasso.
JOHN STONE'S INN, Ashland. Antlers.
JULIET'S, Woburn. Top 40 and Club Classics with DJs Danny and Joe Jazz.
KARMA CLUB, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Speed," hip-hop and house with DJ Bruno.
KENDALL CAFE, Cambridge. Tom Glynn Duo, MacVittles, Jeb Loy Nichols.
LAVA BAR, Boston. "Bootyque" with DJ Brother Cleve.
LES ZYGOMATES, Boston. Joel Smith.
LILLI'S, Somerville. Dangerous Brothers, Bo Thayer & the Euphorians, Dana Colley.
LINWOOD GRILLE, Boston. Indu, Superkollider, Last Step.
THE LIVING ROOM, Providence, RI. Three Seconds Flat, 44 West, 20/20 Hindsight, 34 Spoons.
LIZARD LOUNGE, Cambridge. "Are You Pussy Whipped?" an evening of queer gal smut.
LUCKY DOG MUSIC HALL, Worcester. Sticker, Slugworth, Wide Iris.
MATRIX, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Zion," house and trance with DJ Adilson.
MET CAFE, Providence, RI. MC Paul Barman, Delek.
MIDDLE EAST, Cambridge. Upstairs: Drexel, Dubnicks, Mission 120, Favorite Atomic Hero, Touch It. Downstairs: Breedinground, Headshot, Medicine 4 Tim, We're All Gonna Die, Ichabod. Corner: Board of Education, Gianna & Pedro Viscardi.
MIDWAY CAFE, Jamaica Plain. "Dyke Night."
MILKY WAY, Jamaica Plain. Real Kids, Beatings, Anthemic Pop Wonder, Kitty in the Tree.
THE MODERN, Boston. At 10 p.m., "International Thursdays."
O'BRIENS, Allston. Tommy & the Terrors, Hudson Falcons, GC5.
PARADISE ROCK CLUB, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Tabu" with DJs Mario Lima and Sal Zag.
PHOENIX LANDING, Cambridge. "Elements," drum 'n bass with DJs Crook, Lenore, and Rando.
PLOUGH & STARS, Cambridge. Armadillos.
POLLY ESTHER'S, Boston. "Charlie's Angels Night" with DJ Beez.
PURPLE SHAMROCK, Boston. Jim Plunkett.
RHYTHM & SPICE CARIBBEAN GRILL, Cambridge. Reggae with DJ Evalast.
RIO GRANDE CAFE, Marblehead. Unusuals.
THE ROXY, Boston. At 10:30 p.m., "The Latin Quarter."
RYLES, Cambridge. Phil Yoon Group.
SCULLERS, Boston. Adam Sherman & the Seeds.
SIT 'N BULL PUB Maynard. Ronnie Earl.
SKY BAR, Somerville. Audiants, Crush, Baby Strange.
TIR NA NOG, Somerville. Rust Farm.
TOAD, Cambridge. Dave Sammarco Band, Family Jewels.
TRATTORIA IL PANINO, Boston. "Young Professionals Club."
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, Cambridge. Car Crash Show, Elysium, Asciento, Hospital.
UPSTAIRS LOUNGE, Boston. "Atomic Lounge," swing dancing with DJ Big Daddy.
VENU, Boston. "Swank," Top 40 and house with DJ Adilson.
VERTIGO, Boston. "Legacy," deep house and garage with DJs Max and E2E4.
WALLY'S CAFE, Boston. "Latin Jazz."
WONDER BAR, Allston. Grant Langford Review.
THE YARD ROCK, Quincy. Brian Templeton & the Boston Blues Society.
YESTERDAYS/SOUNDSTAGE, Boston. "Liquid" with DJs Chris DeSimone and Jynx.

FRIDAY 16

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE, Somerville. Dead City Rockers, Red Zone Cuba, Lashes.
ACTON JAZZ CAFE. Acton. Jane Miller

CLUB DIRECTORY

ABBEY LOUNGE (441-9631), 3 Beacon St., Somerville.
ACTON JAZZ CAFE (978-263-6161), 452 Great Rd., Acton.
THE ALLEY (508-767-1011), 144 Commercial St., Worcester.
AN TUA NUA (262-2121), 835 Beacon St., Boston.
THE AQUARIUM (623-3200), 65 Holland St., Somerville.
ARIA 338-7080, 246 Tremont St., Boston.
ARTSPACE (978-283-1381), 1 Center St., Gloucester.
ATLAS DANCE (437-0300), 3 Lansdowne St., Boston.
THE ATTIC (964-6684), 107 R Union St., Newton Centre.
AURORA (350-6001), 300 Congress St., Boston.
AVALON (262-2424), 15 Lansdowne St., Boston.
AXIS (262-2437), 13 Lansdowne St., Boston.
BACK ALLEY THEATRE (576-1253), 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge.
BACKSTAGE (726-1110), Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston.
THE BEACHCOMBER (479-8989), 797 Wollaston Beach Blvd., Quincy.
THE BIG EASY (351-7000), Boylston Pl., Boston.
BILL'S BAR (421-9678), 5 Lansdowne St., Boston.
BLACKBURN TAVERN (978-282-1919), 2 Main St., Gloucester.
BLACK HORSE TAVERN (227-2038), 340 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston.
BLACK ROSE (742-2286), 160 State St., Boston.
BLACKTHORNE TAVERN (508-238-9017), 402 Turnpike St., S. Easton.
BLUESTONE BISTRO (254-8309), 1799 Comm. Ave., Brighton.
BOB THE CHEF'S (536-6204), 604 Columbus Ave., Boston.
BULLFINCH'S (978-443-4094), 730 Boston Post Rd., Sudbury.
THE BURREN (776-6896), 247 Elm St., Davis Sq., Somerville.
CAFFE ITALIA 569-1800, 144 Meridian St., East Boston.
CANTAB LOUNGE/THIRD RAIL (354-2685), 738 Mass. Ave., Central Sq., Cambridge.
CARAVAN CLUB (781-284-9599), 1380 No. Shore Rd., Revere.
CAVEAU WINE BISTRO (578-9700), 800 Boylston St., Boston.
CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN NATICK (508-647-0179), 31 Main St., Natick.
CHAPS (695-9500), 100 Warrenton St., Boston.
CLERYS, (262-9874), 113 Dartmouth St., Boston.
CLUB BOHEMIA/KIRKLAND CAFE (491-9640), 421-425 Washington St., Somerville.
CLUB CAFE (536-0966), 209 Columbus Ave., Boston.
CLUB NICOLE (267-2782), 40 Dalton St., Boston.
CLUB PASSIM (492-7679), 47 Palmer St., Harvard Sq., Cambridge.
COLONIAL INN (978-369-9200), 48 Monument Sq., Concord.
COMEDY CONNECTION (248-9700), Upstairs at Faneuil Hall, Boston.
COMEDY PALACE AT GRILL 93 (888-TO-LAUGH), River Rd., Andover.
COMMON GROUND (783-2071), 83-87 Harvard Ave., Allston.
CONTINENTAL (781-233-2587), 266 Broadway, Saugus.
DICK DOHERTY'S AT THE CHINA BLOSSOM (800-401-2221), Rte. 125, North Andover.
DICK DOHERTY'S AT THE HOLIDAY INN (800-401-2221), Rtes. 93 &28, Randolph.
DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT (781-729-2565), at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston.
DICK'S LAST RESORT (267-8080), 55 Huntington Ave., Boston.
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL (978-745-0139), 7 Dodge St., Salem.
DRUID PUB (497-0965), 1357 Cambridge St., Inman Sq., Cambridge.
EMBASSY (536-2100), 30 Lansdowne St., Boston.
EMILY'S (423-3649), 48 Winter St., Boston.
ENCORE (338-ROXY), 279 Tremont St., Boston.
EUROPA (482-3939), 51 Stuart St., Boston.
THE EXCHANGE (726-7600), 148 State St., Boston.
FLYWHEEL (413-527-9800), 2 Holyoke St., Easthampton.
GRAND CANAL (523-1112), 57 Canal St., Boston.
GREEN BRIAR (789-4100), 304 Washington St., Brighton.
GREEN DRAGON (367-0055). 11 Marshall St., Boston.
THE GREEN ROOM (401-351-7665), 145 Clifford St., Providence, RI.
GREEN STREET GRILL (876-1655), at Charlie's Tap, 280 Green St., Cambridge.
THE GROG (978-465-8008), 13 Middle St., Newburyport.
HARD ROCK CAFE (353-1400), 131 Clarendon St., Boston.
HARPERS FERRY (254-9743), 158 Brighton Ave., Allston.
HARRY'S TOO RESTAURANT (508-898-2200), Rte. 9 West, Westborough.
HENNESSY'S, (742-2121), 25 Union St., Boston.
HIBERNIA (292-2333), 25 Kingston St., Boston.
HOLIDAY INN SELECT (800-401-2221), 5 Blossom St., Boston.
HONG KONG (864-5311), 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.
HOUSE OF BLUES (491-BLUE), 96 Winthrop St., Harvard Sq., Cambridge.
HOWARD JOHNSON (267-8300), 1271 Boylston St., Boston.
IMPROV ASYLUM THEATER (263-6887), 216 Hanover St., Boston.
IRISH EMBASSY PUB (742-6618), 234 Friend St., Boston.
JIMBO'S SOUTH COMEDY SHOW (781-848-0300), 405 Franklin St., Braintree.
JIMMY O'KEEFE'S (695-9333), 33 Batterymarch St., Boston.
JOHNNY D'S (776-2004), 17 Holland St., Davis Sq., Somerville.
JOHN STONE'S INN (508-881-1778), 179 Main St., Ashland.
JUKEBOX (338-ROXY), 275 Tremont St., Boston.
JULIET'S (781-935-8760), 15 Middlesex Canal Park, Woburn.
KARMA CLUB (421-9595), 9 Lansdowne St., Boston.
KENDALL CAFE (661-0993), 233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge.
LAVA BAR (267-7707), 575 Comm. Ave., Boston.
LES ZYGOMATES (542-5108), 129 South St., Boston.
LILLI'S (591-1661), 608 Somerville Ave., Somerville.
LINWOOD GRILLE (267-8644), 69 Kilmarnock St., Boston.
THE LIVING ROOM (401-521-5200), 23 Rathbone St., Providence, RI.
LIZARD LOUNGE (547-0759), 1667 Mass. Ave., below Cambridge Common Restaurant, Cambridge.
LUCKY DOG MUSIC HALL (508-363-1888), 89 Green St., Worcester.
LUPO'S HEARTBREAK HOTEL (401-272-5876), 239 Westminster St., Providence, RI.
MACHINE (536-1950), 1256 Boylston St., Boston.
MATRIX (338-ROXY), 275 Tremont St., Boston.
McGANN'S (227-4059), 197 Portland St., Boston.
MET CAFE (401-861-2142), 130 Union St., Providence, RI.
METROPOLIS (401-454-5483), 172 Pine St., Providence, RI.
MIDDLE EAST (497-0576), 472 Mass. Ave., Central Sq., Cambridge.
MIDWAY CAFE (524-9038), 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain.
MILKY WAY (524-3740), at Bella Luna, 405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain.
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN (338-5656), 77 Broad St., Boston.
THE MODERN (536-2100), 36 Lansdowne St., Boston.
O'BRIENS (782-6245), 3 Harvard Ave., Allston.
THE PALLADIUM (508-797-9696), 261 Main St., Worcester.
PARADISE ROCK CLUB (562-8800), 969 Comm. Ave., Boston.
PHOENIX LANDING (576-6260), 512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.
PLOUGH & STARS (441-3455), 912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.
POLLY ESTHER'S (720-1966), 262 Friend St., Boston.
PORTERS (742-7678), 173 Portland St., Boston.
PRAVDA 116 (482-7799), 116 Boylston St., Boston.
PURPLE SHAMROCK (227-2060), 1 Union St., Boston.
THE RACK (725-1051), 24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall, Boston.
REGATTABAR (661-5000), Charles Hotel, Harvard Sq., Cambridge.
RHYTHM & SPICE CARIBBEAN GRILL (497-0977), 315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.
RIO GRANDE CAFE (781-639-1828), 12 School St., Marblehead.
THE ROXY (338-ROXY), 279 Tremont St., Boston.
RYLES (876-9330), 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge.
THE SAFARI LOUNGE (401-272-3823), 103 Eddy St., Providence, RI.
SCULLERS (562-4111), 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston.
SHARKY'S (603-882-7726), 300 Main St., Nashua, NH.
SILVER STAR RESTAURANT (781-337-4069), 920 Washington St., Weymouth.
SIT 'N BULL PUB (978-897-7232), 163 Main St., Maynard.
SKY BAR (623-5223), 518 Somerville Ave., Somerville.
SOPHIA'S (351-7001), 1270 Boylston St., Boston.
THE STATION (401-823-4660), 211 Cowesett Ave., West Warwick, RI.
SUGAR SHACK (351-2510), 1 Boylston Pl., Boston.
SW1 (423-6767), 48 Winter St., Boston.
TIR NA NOG (628-4300), 366A Somerville Ave., Union Sq., Somerville.
TOAD (497-4950), 1912 Mass. Ave., Porter Sq., Cambridge.
TRATTORIA IL PANINO (338-1000), 295 Franklin St., Boston.
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE (492-BEAR), 10 Brookline St., Central Sq., Cambridge.
UPSTAIRS LOUNGE (703-7364), at the Penalty Box, 65 Causeway St., Boston.
VENU (338-8061), 100 Warrenton St., Boston.
VERTIGO (723-7277), 126 State St., Boston.
WALLY'S CAFE (424-1408), 427 Mass. Ave., Boston.
WESTERN FRONT (492-7772), 343 Western Ave., Cambridge.
WONDER BAR (351-COOL), 186 Harvard Ave., Allston.
THE YARD ROCK (472-9383), 132 East Howard St., Quincy.
YESTERDAYS/SOUNDSTAGE (338-6999), 533 Washington St., Boston.

Group.
THE ALLEY, Worcester. Nok, Johnny Wishbone, Cosmo, Donnybrook, No One's Kind.
AN TUA NUA, Boston. Top 40 with DJ Vin.
ARIA, Boston. "Tempted," house with DJ Raffi.
ARTSPACE, Gloucester. Mission 120, 5 Bucks!, Lazardos, Blame It on Luke.
ATLAS DANCE, Boston. "Top 40 Dancing."
THE ATTIC, Newton Centre. Sunflower, North Street.
AVALON, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Avaland" with DJ Ali Ajami plus special guest DJ George Acosta.
AXIS, Boston. Downstairs: at 10 p.m., "Spin Cycle," house with DJ Tim Ryan. Upstairs: at 10 p.m., '80s alternative with DJ David James.
BACKSTAGE, Boston. Top 40 with DJ Jonny C.
THE BEACHCOMBER, Quincy. Hypercane, Erratic Behavior.
BILL'S BAR, Boston. "Nocturnal Friday" with DJ Mark Hamilton plus special guests Gravel Pit, Control Group, Ms. Pigeon.
BLACKBURN TAVERN, Gloucester. Megawatt Blues Crushers.
BLACK HORSE TAVERN, Boston. Joe Bargar.
BLACKTHORNE TAVERN, S. Easton. Bloodline.
BLUESTONE BISTRO, Brighton. Eric Picotte Harper.
BOB THE CHEF'S, Boston. Groove Two This.
THE BURREN, Somerville. Front Room: "Irish Seisiun."
CAFFE ITALIA, East Boston. Al Vega Trio.
CANTAB LOUNGE/THIRD RAIL, Cambridge. Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers. Downstairs: Phil Pemberton Band.
CAVEAU WINE BISTRO, Boston. Paulo Danay Quartet.
CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN NATICK, Natick. Merrie Amsterburg, Mieka Pauley.
CHAPS, Boston. "Freak" with DJ Richie Rich.
CLUB BOHEMIA/KIRKLAND CAFE, Somerville. Big Ray & the Futuras, Gein & the Graverobbers, Ninth Wave, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo.
CLUB CAFE, Boston. Science Park.
CLUB PASSIM, Cambridge. Dave Mallett.
COLONIAL INN, Concord. Workingman's Jazz Duo.
COMMON GROUND, Allston. Who's the Fat Guy?
DICK'S LAST RESORT, Boston. Soul City, Cut the Mullet.
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL, Salem. Adam Ainslie Band.
EMBASSY, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Revolution," house with DJ J.C.
EMILY'S, Boston. Funk and alternative with DJ Kevin Sawyer.
ENCORE, Boston. John O'Neil.
EUROPA, Boston. "Absolute/Blue," house with DJs Roger M. and Frederics.
THE EXCHANGE, Boston. House and hip-hop with DJs Tiziano & Maurizio and G-Squared.
FLYWHEEL, Easthampton. Isis, Delvic, Hamartia, 13 Mile Drive, Erebus.
GRAND CANAL, Boston. Fat Tuesday.
GREEN DRAGON, Boston. Me & Julio.
THE GREEN ROOM, Providence, RI. Dangerous Charms.
GREEN STREET GRILL, Cambridge. Tarbox Ramblers.
THE GROG, Newburyport. Andrew Clark Band, Sax Attack.
HARD ROCK CAFE, Boston. 421.
HARPERS FERRY, Allston. Two Ton Shoe, Coby Brown Group.
HIBERNIA, Boston. At 6 p.m., DJ Alan Strack. At 10 p.m., deep house with DJ Doug Nice.
HOUSE OF BLUES, Cambridge. Jimmy Smith Quartet.
IRISH EMBASSY PUB, Boston. Flynn.
JIMMY O'KEEFE'S, Boston. DJ Macca.
JOHNNY D'S, Somerville. Holmes Brothers.
JOHN STONE'S INN, Ashland. Sky Blues.
JUKEBOX, Boston. Top 40 and retro dance night.
JULIET'S, Woburn. Top 40 and Club Classics with DJs Danny and Joe Jazz.
KARMA CLUB, Boston. At 9 p.m., "American Karma," Top 40 with DJ Tim Collins.
KENDALL CAFE, Cambridge. D.B. Leonard, Naked Poets, Kelly Buchanan.
LAVA BAR, Boston. "Life," deep house with DJ Fran.
LES ZYGOMATES, Boston. Ron Savage.
LILLI'S, Somerville. Jazz Mandolin Project, Topaz.
LINWOOD GRILLE, Boston. Every Second, Ohm, Controlled Aggression, Temporary Insanity.
THE LIVING ROOM, Providence, RI. Max Creek.
LIZARD LOUNGE, Cambridge. Fire in the Boathouse, Franc Graham Band, Grubstake.
LUCKY DOG MUSIC HALL, Worcester. Itchy Fish, Larry, Simple Discourse.
LUPO'S HEARTBREAK HOTEL, Providence, RI. Fear Factory, Kittie, Union Underground, Slaves on Dope, Boy Hits Car.
MATRIX, Boston. At 9 p.m., House with DJ Deja.
MIDDLE EAST, Cambridge. Upstairs: Labradford, Pan American, Hrvatski. Comer: Family Jewels.
MIDWAY CAFE, Jamaica Plain. Cha Cha All-Stars.
MILKY WAY, Jamaica Plain. Loveless, Dave Aaronoff & the Details, Shelley Winters Project, Nancy Mroczek, PhD.
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN, Boston. Patsy Whelan & Tony O'Riordan.
THE MODERN, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Revolution," house with DJ Eddie K.
O'BRIENS, Allston. Peasants, Rag Weed, Bottleneck Drag, Midnight Creeps.
THE PALLADIUM, Worcester. Upstairs: Children of the Korn. Downstairs: Grupo Mania.
PARADISE ROCK CLUB, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Superstar" with DJs Chaos and Manolo.
PHOENIX LANDING, Cambridge. Disco, hip-hop, and Top 40 with DJ Ren Justice.
PLOUGH & STARS, Cambridge. Al Peterson.
POLLY ESTHER'S, Boston. "Disco Inferno" with DJ Uncle Bob.
PORTERS, Boston. Jim Devlin Trio.
REGATTABAR, Cambridge. Irma Thomas.
RHYTHM & SPICE CARIBBEAN GRILL, Cambridge. Jack Lee & Divercity.
RIO GRANDE CAFE, Marblehead. D.D. & the Road Kings.
THE ROXY, Boston. At 10:30 p.m., "Global Friday," house with DJ Felix.
RYLES, Cambridge. Downstairs: Ron Levy's Wild Kingdom. Upstairs: Joao Marcos Quintet.
THE SAFARI LOUNGE, Providence, RI. Prey for Nothing, H-Bomb, Face Called Hate.

Continued on page 8

Downstairs
Groupo Mania
Upstairs
Children of the Korn
Capital 7 · Twitch
friday, feb. 16

DOWNSET
Sat. Feb. 17
7pm Doors
Factory 81 · Relative Ash · E-Town Concrete

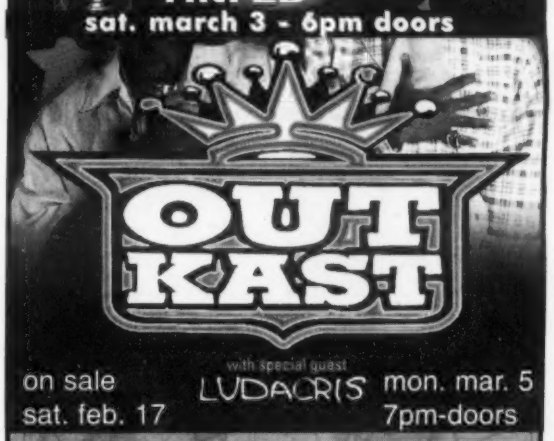
Teen Night
sunday feb. 18 & wednesday, feb. 21

Friday Feb. 23 7pm Doors

DJ ANTHONY ACID
SATURDAY - FEB. 24 - 9PM

ORGY
VAPOR TRANSMUTATION TOUR

with special guests
Spine Shank
TINFED
sat. march 3 - 6pm doors



with special guest
on sale sat. feb. 17
LUDACRIS
mon. mar. 5 7pm-doors

SEPULTURA
HATEBREED/FLYBANGER
FRI. MAR. 16 - 7PM DOORS
ON SALE FRI. FEB. 16

STRANGEFOLK
on sale fri. feb. 16
fri. march 23 - 8pm doors

MIDTOWN
River City High · Hot Rod Circuit
sat. april 7 · upstairs

3rd Annual New England Metal & Hardcore Festival
FRIDAY*****Cannibal Corpse • Dimmu Borgir • The Haunted • Lamb of God • Malevolent Creation • Catastrophic (ex-Obituary)
SATURDAY*****Meshuggah (only U.S. appearance) • Amorphis • Opeth • Shadows Fall • Zao • Living Sacrifice • Gorguts • All Out War • Discass
fri. april 13 & sat. april 14

NEW FOUND GLORY
Glass Jaw/The Movielife/Cooter/Junction18
FRI. APRIL 20 - 6PM DOORS

P PALLADIUM
261 Main St. Worcester
Advance tickets available at all Strawberries Record Stores. To charge-by-phone call tickets.com at (800) 477-6849. Purchase on-line at tickets.com.

The Middle East
472/480 Mass. Ave, Cambridge
www.mideastclub.com

DOWNSTAIRS
THURS 2/15 18+ $7 8:30PM
BREEDINGROUND
HEADSHOT • MEDICINE 4 TIM
WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE • ICHABOD
FRI 2/16 18+ $7
PLASMA PRESENTS:
THE BUDDHA • PREVALENCE
NO REGRET • DASHBOARD JESUS
SAT 2/17 18+ $15 12 NOON
RAGING TEENS RECORD RELEASE EXTRAVAGANZA
DEKE DICKERSON & THE ECCO-FONICS
RAGING TEENS • THE RACKETEERS
KINGS OF NUTHIN' • THE STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS
THE COLONEL AND HIS LUCKY DIAMONDS
THE KONKS • 13 GHOSTS • KING MEMPHIS (FR. ME)
THE JIMMY NATIONS COMBO (FR. NY)
THE BOMBASTICS • SEAN MENCHER (CHICAGO)
SUN 2/18 18+ $15 4:00PM
BENEFIT FOR RAINBOW COALITION
FEATURING MUSIC AND POETRY AND
JIMMY TINGLE
MON 2/19 $3 DONATION 7:30PM
STONE SOUP POETS
WED 2/21 18+ $7 8:30PM
THE GLADSTONES
ERIC MARCOS & NORMAL NOISES • BULLY PULPIT
THURS 2/22 18+ $8ADV/$9DOS
WZBC PRESENTS:
WHITE STRIPES
KNOXVILLE GIRLS • THE GOSSIP (ILL ROCK STARS REC.)
FRI 2/23 18+ $10
GAMELAN PRESENTS:
THE SQUAD
EKENE AND THE SOURCE • BOOTY JUICE
SAT 2/24 18+ $10ADV/$12DOS
GAMELAN PRESENTS:
YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND
GORDON STONE BAND

UPCOMING
2/25 SKATALITES, BABALOO
2/28 COCOA BROVAS, LAST EMPEROR
3/2 TREE (REC REL)
3/3 UNCLE SAMMY, FOXTROT (SUB)
3/9 ED O.G., ACEYALONE (MOVED FROM 3/8)
3/10 RUSTIC OVERTONES
3/11 DANIELSON FAMILE
3/13 THE DONNAS, BRATMOBILE, MOONEY SUN LUX
3/17 WHO'S THE FAT GUY, FAT HEAD
3/18 RAINER MARIA, HELMS
3/24 JOHN BROWN'S BODY
3/25 EYEHATEGOD, ISIS
3/27 BOSEWHEEL, BRASSY
3/30 JUMPMAN (FEAT TOM MARSHALL OF PHISH)
3/31 STEPHEN MALKMUS AND THE JICKS
4/7 RAM SKALA RAM
4/24 MELVINS, FOLK IMPLOSION

UPSTAIRS
THURS 2/15 18+ $7
DREXEL
DUBNICKS (REC REL) • MISSION 120
FAVORITE ATOMIC HERO • TOUCH IT
FRI 2/16 18+ $10
LABRADFORD
PAN AMERICAN • HRVATSKI
SAT 2/17 18+ $7
THE HEROIN SHEIKS (MEM. OF THE COWS)
CRACK TORCH
THE ANOMOANAN (NAOT REC.) • THE CANCER CONSPIRACY
SUN 2/18
18+ $6 8:00PM
LEFT OF HEAVEN
SUPERKOLLIDER • INDU
12:00 PM
BENEFIT FOR DECATUR ST. FIRE
SILENT ART AUCTION
MON 2/19 18+ $6
NEW MUSIC NIGHT:
LAST MAN STANDING
INTERNATIONAL ALLIES • SOUL ROCK BAPTIST
TUES 2/20 18+ $8
THE NEW PORNOGRAPHERS
(FEAT. NEKO CASE)
PAULA KELLEY, 71 SUNBEAM
WED 2/21 18+ $7
HOSTED BY MR. B
THE LOT SIX (SEX PARTY) • DJ NIKE MIKE
RANDOM ACTS OF VIOLENCE • KALUU BIG BATTEL
THURS 2/22 18+ $10
CHRIS COLLINGWOOD (OF FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE)
CHRIS COLBOURN & HILKEN MANCINI • ARI VAS (FR. NYC)
FRI 2/23 18+ SOLD OUT
DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE
THE JEALOUS SOUND • THE AND/ORS
SAT 2/24 18+ $8
HYBRASIL
LAURIE SARGENT • HEIDI SAPERSTEIN

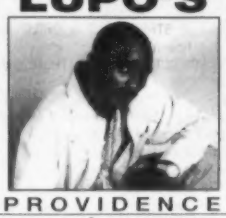
UPCOMING
2/27 RIVER CITY HIGH
2/28 FIT FOR ABUSE, CLOSE CALL
3/1 CERBERUS SHOAL, ROSE OF SHARON
3/2 QUINTAINE AMERICANA
3/3 MILLIGRAM, COKEDEALER
3/4 THE VARUKERS, THE UNSEEN
3/6 THE WOGGLES
3/7 LANE MEYER, HONOR SYSTEM
3/8 BARBERO, VICTORY AT SEA (REC. REL.), 27
3/9 ANGRY HILL, CANINE
3/10 TUGBOAT ANNIE, AM STEREO (REC. REL.)
3/11 COUNTERFIT, SELBY TIGERS (HOPELESS REC.)
3/12 JIM ADKINS (OF JIMMY EAT WORLD)
3/15 RUINS, RON ANDERSON'S PAK
3/23 FUZZY
3/24 LES SAVY FAV
3/28 ENEMYMINE (X-GODHEADSILO), THE RAPTURE
3/29 THE FROGS, DOUBLE DONG
4/7 ANDREW BIRD'S BOWL OF FIRE
4/8 ALKALYNE TRIO, SWEEP THE LEG JOHNNY

CORNER
2/15 10PM BOARD OF EDUCATION
7PM GIANNA AND PEDRO VISCARDI
2/16 10PM RAGING TEENS' ROCK'N'ROLL
PRE-PARTY WITH THE FAMILY JEWELS
2/17 10PM MATT JENSEN AND ACID REGGAE
2/18 10PM BALLA TOUNKARA
7PM BRASS ROOTS
1PM NOAH MALTSBERGER
2/19 10PM THE OUT SIDE
7PM ARI, AMELIA WHITE
2/20 10PM PORTRAIT OF MINGUS
7PM JANET CONNERNEY, NATALIE FLANAGAN
2/21 10PM BELLY DANCING
7PM THE ALLSTON RATS

THE MIDDLE EAST PRESENTS
TUES 3/27 $15 ALL AGES
AT THE SOMERVILLE THEATER
MOGWAI

DOORS AT 9PM UNLESS NOTED
PROPER ID REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION
Tickets available at
Middle East Box Office
OPEN MON.-SAT. 1-7 PM.
For info call 617-864-EAST.
Tickets also available through
TicketMaster. Charge tickets through
ticketmaster 931-2000

LUPO'S



PROVIDENCE
www.lupos.com

This Friday, February 16 • $20 adv
SNO-CORE ROCK
FEAR FACTORY
KITTIE
This Saturday, Feb. 17 • $7 at the Met
JIGGLE THE HANDLE
This Sunday, February 18 • $10
DOWNSET
This Tuesday, February 20 • $12
SANCHEZ
This Tuesday, February 20 - at the Met
DYNAMITE BOY
This Wed., Feb. 21 • $8 at the Met
WHITE STRIPES
Thursday, February 22 • $15
MIGHTY MIGHTY BOSSTONES
Friday, February 23 • $12
STRANGEFOLK
PERCY HILL
Friday, March 2
AMAZING CROWNS
Saturday, March 3 • $10 • 6-10pm
CANDIRIA / MADBALL
SHADOWS FALL / BANE
Tuesday, March 20 • $12.50
EVE 6

LUPO'S HEARTBREAK HOTEL
239 WESTMINSTER ST. (JUST OFF EXIT 22)
DOWNTOWN PROVIDENCE, RI
with THE MET CAFE
TICKETS AT
ticketmaster
& LUPO'S
CALL 617-931-2000 TO CHARGE BY PHONE
http://www.ticketmaster.com

Kinky Love @ MACHINE
Valentine's Dance to benefit the Paddleboro Defense League. Join the Fetish & Leather Community for this big event.
Feb. 18th, starts @ 9pm, 21+
$10. Entertainment, demos, raffles.
1256 Boylston St. (groundfloor)
617.536.1950
www.paddleboro.com
Atrosphere
Adult Per

The Phoenix Landing
Thursday 2/15 10pm
ELEPHENATS Drums & Bass w/ DJs Crook & Lenoir & Randy
Friday 2/16
DISCO HIP HOP TOP 40
DJ Ron Justice
Saturday 2/17
BOOM BOOM ROOM
with DJ Vinny - New Wave, One Hit Wonders, & Disco
Sunday 2/18
8-7pm Samoa Wilson &
The 80s House Heroes
10pm Resurrection
The Hard Trance Techno Experience w/
Monday 2/19
BEST OF HIP HOP, JAZZ, & REGGAE
Tuesday 2/20
8-10:30pm The Simon Beckler Jazz Trio
Wednesday 2/21
Resident DJs Shaldey Cuevas, & Steve Spinatta
Deep House, Trance, Techno
GUEST: Tim "Love" Lee (Grammy Track Record,
Loveless & Tuff Love (NYC Soulful Music)
the alternative irish bar
512 Main Ave, Central Sq, Cambridge Tel: 617 576 6260

The Attic
107-R Union St.
Newton, MA
964-6684
Booking 964-6615 X18
pratprods@aol.com
www.unionst.com/attic.html

Thurs., Feb. 15
Benefit for the MS Society
Live Music at 10pm
Fri., Feb. 16
Sunflower w/
North Street
Sat., Feb. 17
Marie's Children
Annual Pajama Party
Wed., Feb. 21
Kara Tondorf &
McCarthy's Finger

Lilli's
608 SOMERVILLE AVE, SOMERVILLE
617.591.1661
WWW.LILLISCLUB.COM
DOORS @ 8:00, 21+ PROPER ID REQUIRED
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM ticketmaster
617.931.2000 WWW.TICKETMASTER.COM
FREE MUNICIPAL PARKING AVAILABLE NEXT TO CONWAY PARK
@ TICKETMASTER SHOWS

Thu 2/15
The Dangerous Brothers
(Christian McNeil, Jimmy Ryan, Duke Levine, Dave Mattacks, Andrew Marzone)
Bo Thayer and Euphorians
Dana Colley
Fri 2/16*
Gamelan Presents:
The Jazz Mandolin Project
Topaz
Sat 2/17*
Miracle Orchestra
Anti-Jazz Raygun
Tue 2/20
New Show!
The Planetary Group and B.U.F.F. present:
Dragstrip Courage • Mishima
Bowman
Wed 2/21
Plasma presents:
TBA
Thu 2/22
Rocketscience
Pennywheel
Tricycle
Fri 2/23*
Mary Lou Lord
Kevin So • Kyler

Sat 2/24
Gamelan presents:
Division Street
Pretty Cool Chair
Treehouse Union
Tue 2/27
Jeff Tweedy SOLD OUT
Thu 3/01
Sugar Daddy
Buck Fifty
Fri 3/02*
Early Show! 7PM pre-release party w/
OLD 97's
(live set + CD listening-party)
Late show! 9:30 PM
Vic Firecracker
The Fly Seville • Headset
Sat 3/03*
Mike Clark's "Prescription Renewal"
featuring Charlie Hunter,
DJ Logic, Robert Walter, Skerik.
Plus Anti-Jazz Raygun
(in the Mars Music Lounge).
3/04 Early Open show! The Raging Teens
3/10 The Rings of Saturn
3/14 Sex Mob (1st show of Wed. Series)
3/15 92.5 The Blues presents: Sweet Relief

THE Phoenix
Free Band Listings

The annual **Spring Guide to Boston Bands** is on its way.
You'll see it in the March 23rd issue of the Boston Phoenix.
Get a ***free listing*** by filling out this coupon and mailing it to:
Boston Bands, The Boston Phoenix, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston, MA 02215. Or email information to bandguide@phx.com
No phone calls, please. Info must be recieved before March 9th to be included.
And hey, please submit only one coupon per band or service. Band info should be completed by band member or manager.

1. Write your band name or service as it should be listed:

2. What type of music or service do you provide?

□a cappella	□electronica	□punk/hardcore
□alternative	□experimental	□rap/hip hop
□blues/r&b	□folk	□reggae/ska
□irish	□funk	□solo
□classical	□general business	□soul/gospel
□comedy	□jazz/fusion	□swing
□country	□latin	□tribute
□cover rock	□metal	□world music
□dixieland	□oldies	□booking agency
□dj	□original rock	□recording studio

3. Do you have a more detailed description of your music or service?
(i.e. techno-funk, zydeco surf, heavy metal, Maori folk, soul, juju, goth, etc.)

4. Who handles your bookings?
Provide a name, address, phone, and email address. Web site too if you have one.
Name:_____ Address:_____
City, St, Zip:_____
Phone:_____ Email:_____
Web site URL:_____

Advertise in the Band Guide by calling (617) 450-8749

Continued from page 7

SCULLERS, Boston. Abbey Lincoln.
SHARKY'S, Nashua, NH. Cheerleadr, Second Class Citizen, Millhouse, Saje, Tester, Devereaux.
SIT 'N BULL PUB Maynard. Bruce Marshall Group.
SKY BAR, Somerville. Confidence Men, Reverse, Flor Fina.
THE STATION, West Warwick, RI. Warrant.
SW1, Boston. House with DJ Maurizio.
TIR NA NOG, Somerville. Christian MacNeil.
TOAD, Cambridge. Amphibian.
TRATTORIA IL PANINO, Boston. '70s, '80s, and '90s with DJ Zino; progressive, top-40, club, and international with DJ Peter D.
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, Cambridge. Jack Drag, Aaron Perrino, Ad Frank & the Fast Easy Women.
UPSTAIRS LOUNGE, Boston. "The Pill," Britpop and mod with DJs Ken & Jennifer.
VENU, Boston. "International Night," European house with DJs and Arsit and Alex.
VERTIGO, Boston. "Dream Lounge," house with DJs A. Rossi and Souhieris.
WALLY'S CAFE, Boston. John Lamkin Quintet.
WESTERN FRONT, Cambridge. Ark Band.
WONDER BAR, Allston. Johnny Horner/Joe McMahon Quartet.
THE YARD ROCK, Quincy. Cheryl Arena Band.
YESTERDAYS/SOUNDSTAGE, Boston. "Swing Night."

SATURDAY 17

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE, Somerville. Stinkin' Lincolns, Bottleneck Drag.
ACTON JAZZ CAFE, Acton. Myanna.
AN TUA NUA, Boston. Top 40 and hip-hop with DJ Ren Justice.
THE AQUARIUM, Somerville. Plaid Daddy.
ARIA, Boston. Top 40 and Eurohaus with DJ Raffi.
ARIA, Boston. "Living Room," house with DJ Eddy K.
ARTSPACE, Gloucester. Impaled Milk, Four Bob Doles, Jonee Earthquake Band, Profits, Photon Torpedoes.
ATLAS DANCE, Boston. "Top 40 Dancing."
THE ATTIC, Newton Centre. Marie's Children.
AVALON, Boston. At 7 p.m., Coldplay, Powderfinger. At 10 p.m., "Downtown," house with DJ Manolo plus special guest DJ Tall Paul.
AXIS, Boston. Downstairs: at 10 p.m., "X-Night," '90s alternative with DJ Keith Dakin. Upstairs: at 10 p.m., "Leftover Lounge," '80s alternative with DJ David James.
BACKSTAGE, Boston. Top 40 with DJ Freddy C.
THE BEACHCOMBER, Quincy. Catunes.
BILL'S BAR, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Smile Saturday," hip-hop and R&B with DJ Bruno.
BLACKBURN TAVERN, Gloucester. Beale Street Band.
BLACK HORSE TAVERN, Boston. Sky Blues.
BLACKTHORNE TAVERN, S. Easton. Anawan.
BLUESTONE BISTRO, Brighton. Phil Donatelli.
BOB THE CHEF'S, Boston. Herman Johnson Quartet.
THE BURREN, Somerville. Back Room: Tarbox Ramblers. Front Room: "Irish Seisiun."
CANTAB LOUNGE/THIRD RAIL, Cambridge. Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers. Downstairs: Phil Pemberton Band.
CAVEAU WINE BISTRO, Boston. Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee Quartet.
CLUB BOHEMIA/KIRKLAND CAFE, Somerville. Flat Five, J-Walkers, 18 Abbey.
CLUB NICOLE, Boston. European house with DJ Alex.
CLUB PASSIM, Cambridge. Jim Kweskin Band.
COLONIAL INN, Concord. Hatrack Gallagher.
COMMON GROUND, Allston. Stymie.
DICK'S LAST RESORT, Boston. Blue Soul, Rob Gonzalez Band.
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL, Salem. Weepin' Willie.
EMBASSY, Boston. At 10 p.m., house with DJ Eddie K.
EMILY'S, Boston. Top 40 with DJs Gary Burks and Charlie B.
ENCORE, Boston. DesPres & DeGraff.
EUROPA, Boston. "Killer Dance Club," gay night with DJs Mary Alice & Michael Sheehan.
THE EXCHANGE, Boston. House and hip-hop with DJs Raffi and G-Squared.
GRAND CANAL, Boston. Return.
GREEN DRAGON, Boston. Off the Wall.
THE GREEN ROOM, Providence, RI. Sheila Divine, Orbit.
GREEN STREET GRILL, Cambridge. "Latin Night."
THE GROG, Newburyport. Little on the Side, Peanut Funker & Jam.
HARPERS FERRY, Allston. Matt "Guitar" Murphy, Vykki Vox.
HIBERNIA, Boston. House with DJ Steve Porter plus special guest DJ Luis Diaz.
HOUSE OF BLUES, Cambridge. At 1 p.m., Russ Costa & Jacques Raymond. At 10 p.m., Jimmy Smith Quartet.
JIMMY O'KEEFE'S, Boston. Cobalt.
JOHNNY D'S, Somerville. Babaloo.
JOHN STONE'S INN, Ashland. Little Johnny's Evil Twin.
JUKEBOX, Boston. Top 40 and retro dance night.
JULIET'S, Woburn. Top 40 and Club Classics with DJs Bob and Renn.
KARMA CLUB, Boston. At 3 p.m., Major Accident, Templars, Unseen, APA, Foreign Legion. At 10 p.m., "Elements of Life," house with DJ Mario. In the Cheetah Room: at 10 p.m., funk and soul with DJ Tim Collins.
KENDALL CAFE, Cambridge. Brendan O'Donnell, Howard Fishman Quartet, Michael Fracasso.
LAVA BAR, Boston. Lesbian night with DJ Fran.
LES ZYGOMATES, Boston. Ron Murphy.
LILLI'S, Somerville. Miracle Orchestra, Anti-Jazz Raygun.
LINWOOD GRILLE, Boston. Chrissi Poland, Matt Chase Band.
LIZARD LOUNGE, Cambridge. Lucky 57, Scrimshanders, Kickbacks.
LUCKY DOG MUSIC HALL, Worcester. Driftwood, Gein & the Graverobbers, Say Hi to Lisa.
MET CAFE, Providence, RI. Jiggle the Handle, Treehouse Union.
METROPOLIS, Providence, RI. DJ Anthony Acid.
MIDDLE EAST, Cambridge. Upstairs: Heroine Sheiks, Crack Torch, Anomoanan, Cancer Conspiracy. Downstairs: at noon, Raging Teens, Deke Dickerson & the Ecco-Fonics, Racketeers, Bourbonaires, Kings of Nuthin', Star Line Rhythm Boys, Colonel & His Lucky Diamonds, Konks, 13 Ghosts, King Memphis, Jimmy Nations Combo, Bombastics, Sean Mencher. Corner: Matt Jensen & Acid Reggae.
MIDWAY CAFE, Jamaica Plain. Four Piece Suit.
MILKY WAY, Jamaica Plain. At 8:30 p.m., "Mango's Latin Dance Club."
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN, Boston. Patsy Whelan & Tony O'Riordan.
THE MODERN, Boston. At 10 p.m., house with DJ Shiuan Lee.
O'BRIENS, Allston. Black Helicopter, 5ive, Medea Connection, Package.
THE PALLADIUM, Worcester. Downset, Factory 81, Relative Ash, E-Town Concrete.
PARADISE ROCK CLUB, Boston. At 7:30 p.m., Los Amigos Invisibles, Hazie Maze. At 10 p.m., "Shake," hip-hop, funk, and soul with DJ Goodfella.
PHOENIX LANDING, Cambridge. "Boom Boom Room," new wave and disco with DJ Vin.
PLOUGH & STARS, Cambridge. Dave Foley.
POLLY ESTHER'S, Boston. "Saturday Night Fever" with DJ Uncle Bob.
PORTERS, Boston. Jack & Present Co.
REGATTABAR, Cambridge. Irma Thomas.
RHYTHM & SPICE CARIBBEAN GRILL, Cambridge. Tropical Fire.
RIO GRANDE CAFE, Marblehead. Brian Maes.
THE ROXY, Boston. At 9 p.m., house with DJ Adilson.
RYLES, Cambridge. Bluehemians.
THE SAFARI LOUNGE, Providence, RI. Trachtenberg.
SCULLERS, Boston. Abbey Lincoln.
SHARKY'S, Nashua, NH. Beatle Juice.
SIT 'N BULL PUB Maynard. Sal Baglio & the Funky Pretties.
SKY BAR, Somerville. Playing for Audrey, Pure Fiction, Typhoon Ferri, Waver.
SW1, Boston. House with DJ Sava.
TIR NA NOG, Somerville. Jimmy Ryan.
TOAD, Cambridge. Say Zuzu.
TRATTORIA IL PANINO, Boston. '70s, '80s, and '90s with DJ Zino; progressive, top-40, club, and international with DJ Steve Anderson.
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, Cambridge. Wide Iris, Naked Sams, Garage Dogs, Meat Depressed.
UPSTAIRS LOUNGE, Boston. "10.15," '80s new wave with DJ Kilbey.
VENU, Boston. "Mythos" with DJ Vorgo.
VERTIGO, Boston. "International Night," house with DJs Andrea Rossi and Matty Rubin.
WALLY'S CAFE, Boston. John Lamkin Quintet.
WESTERN FRONT, Cambridge. Ark Band.
WONDER BAR, Allston. Rusty Scott Quartet.
THE YARD ROCK, Quincy. John Putnam & Used Blues.
YESTERDAYS/SOUNDSTAGE, Boston. "Top 40 and Club Classics."

SUNDAY 18

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ACTON JAZZ CAFE, Acton. Visions Trio.
AN TUA NUA, Boston. "Acoustic Open Mic."
AURORA, Boston. "Ginseng," soulful house, hip hop, and reggae.
AVALON, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Gay Night," house with DJ Darrin Friedman.
BACKSTAGE, Boston. Hip-hop and reggae with DJ T Clark.
THE BEACHCOMBER, Quincy. Old Brigade Band, Norman Payne.
THE BIG EASY, Boston. "The Meet Knish."
BILL'S BAR, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Reggae Sunday" with DJ Selector K-Don featuring Holy Smoke, Dub Station.
BLACKBURN TAVERN, Gloucester. At 11:30 a.m., "Sunday Brunch" with Anthony Weller Jazz Duo.
BLACKTHORNE TAVERN, S. Easton. At 11 a.m., Paul Combs. At 5 p.m., "Seisiun." At 8:30 p.m., Kilt.
BOB THE CHEF'S, Boston. "Sunday Jazz Brunch" with Paulo Danay.
BULLFINCH'S, Sudbury. At 11 a.m., "Jazz Brunch."
THE BURREN, Somerville. Front Room: "Irish Seisiun."
CANTAB LOUNGE/THIRD RAIL, Cambridge. "Blues Jam" with Little Joe Cook.
CARAVAN CLUB, Revere. Angelico.
CHAPS, Boston. "T-Dance," old school house with DJs Danae and Richie Rich.
CLERYS, Boston. Freelance Bishops.
CLUB PASSIM, Cambridge. Stephen Fearing, Kerri Powers.
COLONIAL INN, Concord. John Fitzsimmons & Seth Connelly.
DICK'S LAST RESORT, Boston. At 10 a.m., Silver Lining. At 7 p.m., Rob Gonzalez Band.
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL, Salem. Bruce Bartlet Trio.
DRUID PUB, Cambridge. At 5 p.m., "Traditional Seisiun" with Shay Walker.
THE EXCHANGE, Boston. "Sex," house and funk.
GREEN DRAGON, Boston. Swinging Johnsons.
THE GREEN ROOM, Providence, RI. Deke Dickerson & the Ecco-Fonics, Colonel & His Lucky Diamonds.
GREEN STREET GRILL, Cambridge. Kilombo Mambo.
HARPERS FERRY, Allston. Southern Fried Soul Shack.
HOUSE OF BLUES, Cambridge. "Stevie Ray Vaughan Tribute" with Rick "King" Russell.
HOWARD JOHNSON, Boston. From noon to 8 p.m., "Hangover Easy," down-tempo beats.
JOHNNY D'S, Somerville. At 4:30 p.m., "Open Blues Jam." At 9 p.m., "Salsa Dancing" with Rumba Na Ma.
JOHN STONE'S INN, Ashland. "Blues Jam" with Pete Henderson.
KARMA CLUB, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Heat," hip-hop, reggae, and R&B with DJs Chuck Dog and Statik Selektah.
KENDALL CAFE, Cambridge. Charlie Chesterman, Frank Morey, Eric Royer.
LAVA BAR, Boston. "Pandora's Box," '60s Eurotica and more with DJ Vin.
THE LIVING ROOM, Providence, RI. Isis, As the Sun Sets, Backstabbers, Inc., August Prophecy.
LIZARD LOUNGE, Cambridge. "Poetry Slam & Jam" with Jeff Robinson Trio.
LUPO'S HEARTBREAK HOTEL, Providence, RI. Downset, Factory 81, Relative Ash, E-Town Concrete.
MACHINE, Boston. "Kinky Love Valentine Dance."
MIDDLE EAST, Cambridge. Upstairs: Left of Heaven. Corner: Balla Tounkara, Brass Roots, Alabama Frank & the Not-From-Dixie Band, Noah Maltsberger.
MILKY WAY, Jamaica Plain. "Mystic Reggae" with DJ Magnum.
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN, Boston. Mike Barrett.
O'BRIENS, Allston. Jeff Patalingros, Confederacy of Dumpsters.
PHOENIX LANDING, Cambridge. Trance with DJ Blacksmith.
THE RACK, Boston. Chad LaMarsh.
RIO GRANDE CAFE, Marblehead. Blues Food.
SCULLERS, Boston. Abbey Lincoln.
SIT 'N BULL PUB Maynard. B.J. Magoon & Drivin' Sideways.
TIR NA NOG, Somerville. "Seisiun."
TOAD, Cambridge. Resophonics.
TRATTORIA IL PANINO, Boston. "International Night" with DJs Nino, Antoine, Giulano, and Giovanni.
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, Cambridge. "Reverie," goth & industrial night.
VENU, Boston. "Carnival," Brazilian night with DJ Adilson.
WALLY'S CAFE, Boston. Wally's Stepchildren.
WONDER BAR, Allston. Johnny Horner/Joe McMahon Trio featuring Barry Ries.
THE YARD ROCK, Quincy. At 9 p.m., "Blues Jam" with Steve Murphy.

MONDAY 19

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

AN TUA NUA, Boston. "Ceremony," goth & industrial.
AXIS, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Static," drag show with DJ Jay Ine and Mizery.
BILL'S BAR, Boston. At 9 p.m., "Monsta Monday" with DJ Kaptain Krunch plus special guests Trustfall, Colepitz, Simple, All Parallels.
BLACK ROSE, Boston. Tony O'Riordan.
BLACKTHORNE TAVERN, S. Easton. Cliff Eberhardt, Stephen Fearing.
BULLFINCH'S, Sudbury. Paul Broadnax & Peter Kontrimas.
THE BURREN, Somerville. Back Room: "Set Dancing" with Ger Cooney. Front

IRMA THOMAS *plays the Regattabar on Friday and Saturday.*

Room: "Irish Seisiun."
CANTAB LOUNGE/THIRD RAIL, Cambridge. Sarah Burnham, Geoff Bartley.
CHAPS, Boston. "Piano Open Mic" with Michelle Curry.
CLUB PASSIM, Cambridge. "Arabesque."
COLONIAL INN, Concord. Mike Carreras.
DICK'S LAST RESORT, Boston. Brick Park.
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL, Salem. Russ Lawton.
ENCORE, Boston. Dorothy Miller & Michael Larson.
GREEN BRIAR, Brighton. "Irish Seisiun."
GREEN STREET GRILL, Cambridge. Michael Tarbox Duo.
HARPERS FERRY, Allston. Distant Relatives.
HOUSE OF BLUES, Cambridge. Uncle Trouble.
KARMA CLUB, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Platinum," hip-hop, reggae, and house with DJs Bruno, Thanos, and Nelski.
KENDALL CAFE, Cambridge. Splendid Nobodies, Zoubek & Bryant.
LIZARD LOUNGE, Cambridge. Fringe.
MIDDLE EAST, Cambridge. Upstairs: Last Man Standing, International Allies, Soul Rock Baptist. Corner: Tom Bianchi & the Outside, Ari & Amelia White.
O'BRIENS, Allston. Consider This.
PHOENIX LANDING, Cambridge. Hip-Hop and Reggae with DJs Voyager :01 and Blackfinger.
TOAD, Cambridge. Tim Gearan Band, Shwang.
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, Cambridge. Piglet, Jon McGarry, Dave Riccobono.
VERTIGO, Boston. "Ultra Lounge," house with DJs A. Rossi and Eric Santangelo.
WALLY'S CAFE, Boston. Jose Ramos & the Special Blend.
WONDER BAR, Allston. Johnny Horner/Joe McMahon Trio featuring Barry Ries.

TUESDAY 20

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.
ACTON JAZZ CAFE, Acton. Jerry Bergonzi, Bruce Gertz & Bob Kaufman.
AN TUA NUA, Boston. "Whats Up Night," house and hip-hop with DJs Skinny B and Ray.
AVALON, Boston. Aaron Carter, Tik N' Tak.
BILL'S BAR, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Fat Tuesday," hip-hop and R&B with DJ Chaos.
BLACKTHORNE TAVERN, S. Easton. Kris Pappas Trio.
THE BURREN, Somerville. Back Room: "Open Mic" with Hugh McGowan. Front Room: "Irish Seisiun."
CANTAB LOUNGE/THIRD RAIL, Cambridge. Adam Dewey & Crazy Creek.
CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN NATICK, Natick. "Jazz Jam" with Dr. Ming.
CHAPS, Boston. Retro with DJs Danae and Michael Sheehan.
CLUB BOHEMIA/KIRKLAND CAFE, Somerville. Chris Zahnleiter Quartet.
CLUB PASSIM, Cambridge. "Open Mic."
COLONIAL INN, Concord. "Bluesday" with Hatrack Gallagher & the Workingman's Band.
DICK'S LAST RESORT, Boston. Cut the Mullet.
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL, Salem. Fats Hammond.
EMBASSY, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Lot 36," house with DJ Eddie K.
ENCORE, Boston. Bobby Femino.
THE EXCHANGE, Boston. Uncle Trouble.
GREEN STREET GRILL, Cambridge. "Magicians and Spirits," cabaret-style magic show.
HARPERS FERRY, Allston. Another Planet.
HOUSE OF BLUES, Cambridge. Umphrey's McGee.
JOHNNY D'S, Somerville. Felicia Brady.
KENDALL CAFE, Cambridge. Jed Parish, Mark Mulcahy, Colin Decker.
LES ZYGOMATES, Boston. Alvin Terry Trio.
LIZARD LOUNGE, Cambridge. Naftule's Dream, Anti-Jazz Raygun.
LUPO'S HEARTBREAK HOTEL, Providence, RI. Sanchez, Nadine Sutherland.
McGANN'S, Boston. Slainte.
MET CAFE, Providence, RI. Dynamite Boy, Cooter, Smackin' Isaiah, Boxing Water.
MIDDLE EAST, Cambridge. Upstairs: Neko Case & the New Pornographers, 71 Sunbeam. Corner: Portrait of Mingus, Janet Connerney & Natalie Flanagan.
MIDWAY CAFE, Jamaica Plain. "Open Jam" with Tam Lawlor, Bob's Smirking Revenge.
MILKY WAY, Jamaica Plain. "Mary Mary's All-Star Karaoke."
THE MODERN, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Lot 36," Latin house with DJ J.C.
O'BRIENS, Allston. "Trash" with DJs Steve and Adrienne.
PLOUGH & STARS, Cambridge. Michael Tarbox.
REGATTABAR, Cambridge. Robbie Lee Quintet.
RYLES, Cambridge. Yoko Miwa.
TIR NA NOG, Somerville. Jimmy Ryan.
TOAD, Cambridge. Todd Thibaud, Michael Tarbox.
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, Cambridge. Love Scream, Alchemilla, Hazzard County, Six Days Away.
VENU, Boston. "Milk," house with DJ Osheen.
WALLY'S CAFE, Boston. Wally's Stepchildren.
WONDER BAR, Allston. Wayne Escoffery Trio.

WEDNESDAY 21

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.
ABBEY LOUNGE, Somerville. Carl Cacho, Mieka Pauley, Ryan Kipp, Daniel Jacobs.
ACTON JAZZ CAFE, Acton. "Acoustic Open Mic" with hosts Fishken & Groves.
THE ALLEY, Worcester. Last in Line, A-Team, Out of Commission, Last of the McFlys, No One's Heroes, Revenge.
ARIA, Boston. Mediterranean night with DJ Thanos.
THE ATTIC, Newton Centre. Kara Tondorf, McCarthy's Finger.
BACKSTAGE, Boston. Top 40 with DJ Jonny C.
BILL'S BAR, Boston. At 9 p.m., "UndergroundHipHop.com Third Anniversary Party" with DJ Frank White plus special guests Louis Logic, Briz, Akrobatik, Nabo Rawk & the Massholes, Poison Pen, Apathy & the Demigodz, Non-Prophets, Adeem, Team Demolition, Storm the Unpredictable.
BLACKTHORNE TAVERN, S. Easton. Kyle Shiver.
THE BURREN, Somerville. Front Room: "Irish Seisiun."
CANTAB LOUNGE/THIRD RAIL, Cambridge. "Blues Jam" with Little Joe Cook. Downstairs: "Boston Poetry Slam."
CARAVAN CLUB, Revere. Joe Mack.
CHAPS, Boston. Latino night with DJ Caesar Romero.
CLUB BOHEMIA/KIRKLAND CAFE, Somerville. Blue Jazz Trio, Jama Jigi, Jinx Motive.
CLUB PASSIM, Cambridge. James O'Brien, Karaugh Brown.
COLONIAL INN, Concord. Jimmy Mazzy.
COMMON GROUND, Allston. "What a Way to Go-Go," mod night with DJ Vin.
DICK'S LAST RESORT, Boston. Jennerators.
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL, Salem. Dis & Dat.
EMILY'S, Boston. "Rock Out!" rock trivia night.
ENCORE, Boston. Brian Nash & Justin Trantter.
THE EXCHANGE, Boston. "Service Industry Night."
GREEN STREET GRILL, Cambridge. Fully Celebrated Orchestra.
HENNESSY'S, Boston. Me & Julio.
HIBERNIA, Boston. Down-tempo and house with DJ Mason.
HONG KONG, Cambridge. "Samsara," drum 'n bass and more with DJs Dino, David West, and Kris DeFixio.
HOUSE OF BLUES, Cambridge. Jinx Motive, Step Light.
IRISH EMBASSY PUB, Boston. Machinery Hall.
JIMMY O'KEEFE'S, Boston. Mossie.
JOHNNY D'S, Somerville. C.J. Chenier.
JOHN STONE'S INN, Ashland. "Open Mic" with John Burrows.
KENDALL CAFE, Cambridge. Blue Pearl, David Culiner.
LES ZYGOMATES, Boston. Jim Dower.
LINWOOD GRILLE, Boston. "Acoustic Open Mic."
THE LIVING ROOM, Providence, RI. Dr. Didg.
LIZARD LOUNGE, Cambridge. Laurie Sargent, Dennis Brennan.
LUCKY DOG MUSIC HALL, Worcester. Disarray, Candy Striper Death Orgy, Stock Seven.
MET CAFE, Providence, RI. White Stripes, Knoxville Girls.
MIDDLE EAST, Cambridge. Upstairs: "Sex Party" with Lot Six, Random Acts of Violence, Kaiju Big Battle, DJ Nike Mike, and Mr. B. Downstairs: Bully Pulpit, Slot Machine. Corner: "Belly Dancing" with Sy Matta Band, Allston Mutts.
MIDWAY CAFE, Jamaica Plain. Chandler Travis Philharmonic.
MILKY WAY, Jamaica Plain. At 9 p.m., "Mercury," soul, funk, and house.
O'BRIENS, Allston. Bird Gets the Smile, Beaten Down Witness, Bombastics.
PARADISE ROCK CLUB, Boston. At 10 p.m., "969."
PHOENIX LANDING, Cambridge. "Hump," deep house, trance, techno, and more with DJs Shalako, Caseroc, and Skye.
PLOUGH & STARS, Cambridge. Bad Art Enterrible.
PRAVDA 116, Boston. European house with DJs Alex and Felix.
REGATTABAR, Cambridge. Bob Nieske Three.
RYLES, Cambridge. "Brazilian Night" with Jazzanova.
SCULLERS, Boston. Alon Yavnai Sextet.
SOPHIA'S, Boston. "Salsa Night."
SUGAR SHACK, Boston. "It," house, hip hop, R&B, and reggae with DJ Bruno.
TIR NA NOG, Somerville. Easy Marks.
TOAD, Cambridge. Barn.
TRATTORIA IL PANINO, Boston. "Greek Night."
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, Cambridge. Town & Country, Blake Hazard, Mark Kraus.
VENU, Boston. "The Rinse," drum 'n bass and breakbeats with DJ Drama.
WALLY'S CAFE, Boston. Wally's Stepchildren.
WONDER BAR, Allston. Leo Blanco.
THE YARD ROCK, Quincy. "Early Bird Blues" with Rick "King" Russell.

THURSDAY 22

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.
ABBEY LOUNGE, Somerville. Alfonze, Blue Grazer, Photo Flash.
ACTON JAZZ CAFE, Acton. "Blues Jam" with Mike Avery & Lenny Ball.
AN TUA NUA, Boston. Hip-hop and Top 40 with DJ Ren Justice.
ARIA, Boston. Eurohaus and Latin house with DJs Eddy K and J.C.
AVALON, Boston. At 10 p.m., "International Thursdays," Eurohaus with DJ Manolo.
AXIS, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Chrome," house and trance with DJs John Debo, Ali Ajami, and Fran plus special guest DJ Casey Hogan.
BACK ALLEY THEATRE, Cambridge. Charlie Kohlhase Quintet.
BILL'S BAR, Boston. At 9 p.m., "Underground Thursday" with DJ Mark Hamilton plus special guests Clutch Grabwell, T-House of the Almighty, Virgil Cain.
BLACKBURN TAVERN, Gloucester. Spirit House.
BLACK HORSE TAVERN, Boston. Apartment Three.
BLACKTHORNE TAVERN, S. Easton. Inca Son.
BOB THE CHEF'S, Boston. Sonny Watson Quartet.
THE BURREN, Somerville. Front Room: "Irish Seisiun."
CANTAB LOUNGE/THIRD RAIL, Cambridge. Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers.
CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN NATICK, Natick. "Acoustic Open Mic" with host Oen Kennedy.
CLUB BOHEMIA/KIRKLAND CAFE, Somerville. Honky Tonk Heroes, Lorraine Della Rocca, Becky Warren Band.
CLUB PASSIM, Cambridge. Chris & Meredith Thompson, Melissa Morris, Rachel McCartney, Lis Harvey, Amanda Garrigues, Stephanie Fix.
COLONIAL INN, Concord. John Fitzsimmons.
COMMON GROUND, Allston. Chauncey, Gel.
CONTINENTAL, Saugus. Al Vega Trio.
DICK'S LAST RESORT, Boston. Mission of Blues.
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL, Salem. Marty Rowen's Last Call.
DRUID PUB, Cambridge. House with DJ Doug Nice.
EMBASSY, Boston. At 10 p.m., "International Thursdays," Latin house with DJ Anthony.
ENCORE, Boston. Michelle Currie.
EUROPA, Boston. "Absolute," house & trance with DJ Stezo.
THE EXCHANGE, Boston. "Heaven & Hell," house and hip-hop with DJs Chaos and 7L.
GREEN DRAGON, Boston. Spitting Vinnies.
GREEN STREET GRILL, Cambridge. "Latin Night."
HARD ROCK CAFE, Boston. Jon Bowser.
HARPERS FERRY, Allston. Foxtrot Zulu.
HARRY'S TOO RESTAURANT, Westborough. Cassandre McKinley.
HIBERNIA, Boston. At 6 p.m., trip-hop with DJ Jeremy. At 10 p.m., "Food," down-tempo and house.
HOUSE OF BLUES, Cambridge. Actual Proof.
IRISH EMBASSY PUB, Boston. Crush.
JIMMY O'KEEFE'S, Boston. DJ Macca.
JOHNNY D'S, Somerville. Mother's Favorite Child.
JOHN STONE'S INN, Ashland. Jonathan Sanson.
JULIET'S, Woburn. Top 40 and Club Classics with DJs Danny and Joe Jazz.
KARMA CLUB, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Speed,"
Continued on page 10

THE NEW GREEN STREET GRILL
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GIANCARLO BUSCAGLIA
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Tuesday, February 20
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CD Release party for FIRE IN THE BOATHOUSE
THE FRANC GRAHAM BAND and GRUBSTAKE
Saturday 2/17
CD Release party for LUCKY 57 & their very special guests SCRIMSHANDERS and THE KICKBACKS
Sunday 2/18
THE LIZARD LOUNGE POETRY SLAM @ 7:30
THE LIZARD LOUNGE POETRY JAM @ 9:00
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Tuesday 2/20
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AMOS HOUSE BENEFIT!
CLAIRVOYANTS • DEPARTURE LOUNGE (FROM LONDON)
CANYON • PURPLE IVY SHADOWS • DELPHINE
••• NEW SHOWS •••
Monday, April 9th
CHICKS ON SPEED
(FR. GERMANY)
Thursday, April 12th
THE ALARM 2000
(FEAT. ORIGINAL SINGER/GUITARIST MIKE PETERS)
TIX ON SALE TODAY!
••• COMING •••
2/28 Superdrag, Joe Marc's Brother, Cash
3/2 Orbit, The Gentlemen, Dave Aaronoff & The Details, The Creature Comforts
3/3 Orbit, Helicopter Helicopter, Squatweiler
3/4 'Reverie'
3/5 Laura Clapp, Tegan & Sara, Katie Barbato
3/7 Rocket From The Crypt, The Go-To-Hells, Burning Brides
3/9 Willard Grant CD Release
3/10 Mistle Thrush, Ours, Butterfield 8, Brain Gottesman
3/24 C60, Sinners & Saints, Trustfall, Purge d.i.
3/25 Fuck (final tour), The Minders, Virginia Dare
3/30 Slobberbone, Charlie Chesterman, Say Zuzu
3/31 Wildfire, Willie & The Ramblers (ft. Sweden), The Raging Teens
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Continued from page 9

hip-hop and house with DJ Bruno.
KENDALL CAFE, Cambridge. Darby Jones, Jim Rader, Duncan Watt.
LAVA BAR, Boston. "Bootyque" with DJ Brother Cleve.
LES ZYGOMATES, Boston. Massimo Briocotti.
LILLI'S, Somerville. Rocket Science, Penny Wheel, Tricycle.
LINWOOD GRILLE, Boston. Current, Leigh, Juniper's Daughters.
LIZARD LOUNGE, Cambridge. "Club d'Elf" with special guests John Medeski, DJ Logic, Joe Maneri, and Mat Maneri.
LUCKY DOG MUSIC HALL, Worcester. Red Right Hand, Burn Cycle, Server, Left of Heaven.
LUPO'S HEARTBREAK HOTEL, Providence, RI. Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Weston.
MATRIX, Boston. At 10 p.m., "Zion," house and trance with DJ Adilson.
McGANN'S, Boston. Amo.
MIDDLE EAST, Cambridge. Upstairs: Chris Collingwood. Downstairs: White Stripes, Knoxville Girls, Gossip. Corner: Board of Education. Adrienne & Kara Tondorff.
MIDWAY CAFE, Jamaica Plain. "Dyke Night."
THE MODERN, Boston. At 10 p.m., "International Thursdays."
O'BRIENS, Allston. Buzz Bomb, Lashes, Sullen Skies.
PARADISE ROCK CLUB, Boston. At 7:30 p.m., Levellers, Todd Thibaud. At 10 p.m., "Tabu" with DJs Mario Lima and Sal Zag.
PHOENIX LANDING, Cambridge. "Elements," drum 'n bass with DJs Crook, Lenore, and Rando.
PLOUGH & STARS, Cambridge. One Thin Dime.
POLLY ESTHER'S, Boston. "Charlie's Angels Night" with DJ Beez.
PURPLE SHAMROCK, Boston. Jim Plunkett.
REGATTABAR, Cambridge. Ron Carter Quartet.
RHYTHM & SPICE CARIBBEAN GRILL, Cambridge. Reggae with DJ Evalast.
RIO GRANDE CAFE, Marblehead. City Pete Poirier.
THE ROXY, Boston. At 10:30 p.m., "The Latin Quarter."
RYLES, Cambridge. Ryles Jazz Orchestra.
SCULLERS, Boston. Laszlo Gardony Group.
SIT 'N BULL PUB Maynard. Ronnie Earl.
TIR NA NOG, Somerville. Jon Shain.
TOAD, Cambridge. Grubstake, Family Jewels.
TRATTORIA IL PANINO, Boston. "Young Professionals Club."
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, Cambridge. Arab on Radar, Olneyville Sound System, Takers.
UPSTAIRS LOUNGE, Boston. "Atomic Lounge," swing dancing with DJ Big Daddy.
VENU, Boston. "Swank," Top 40 and house with DJ Adilson.
VERTIGO, Boston. "Legacy," deep house and garage with DJs Max and E2E4.
WALLY'S CAFE, Boston. "Latin Jazz."
WONDER BAR, Allston. Grant Langford Quartet.
THE YARD ROCK, Quincy. Danny Tucker & Vibe Tribe.
YESTERDAYS/SOUNDSTAGE, Boston. "Liquid" with DJs Chris DeSimone and Jynx.

comedy

THURSDAY 15

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY CONNECTION, Boston. At 7 p.m., Wendy Liebman. At 9 p.m., "The R-Rated Hypnotist," Frank Santos.
COMEDY PALACE AT GRILL 93, Andover. "Boston Comedy Showcase."
DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT, Boston. "Comedie du Jour."
HOLIDAY INN SELECT, Boston. "Beantown Madness" with Dick Doherty.
HONG KONG, Cambridge. "Thursday Night Fights" starring Tim McIntyre.
IMPROV ASYLUM THEATER, Boston. "Improv Night."

FRIDAY 16

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

BACK ALLEY THEATRE, Cambridge. "TheaterSports."
COMEDY CONNECTION, Boston. Wendy Liebman.
COMEDY PALACE AT GRILL 93, Andover. Paul Mercurio, Patti Ross, Stephanie Peter.
DICK DOHERTY'S AT THE CHINA BLOSSOM, North Andover. Patty Ross, Chris Oake, Teresa Craggan.
DICK DOHERTY'S AT THE HOLIDAY INN, Randolph. Paul Nardizzi, Greg Rodrigues, Bari Lee.
DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT, Boston. Jon Fisch.
HOLIDAY INN SELECT, Boston. "Beantown Madness" with Dick Doherty.
HONG KONG, Cambridge. "P.S. Absurdo" with Brendon Small.
IMPROV ASYLUM THEATER, Boston. "Improv Night."
SILVER STAR RESTAURANT, Weymouth. Annette Pollack, Bob Niles, Harrison Stebbins.

SATURDAY 17

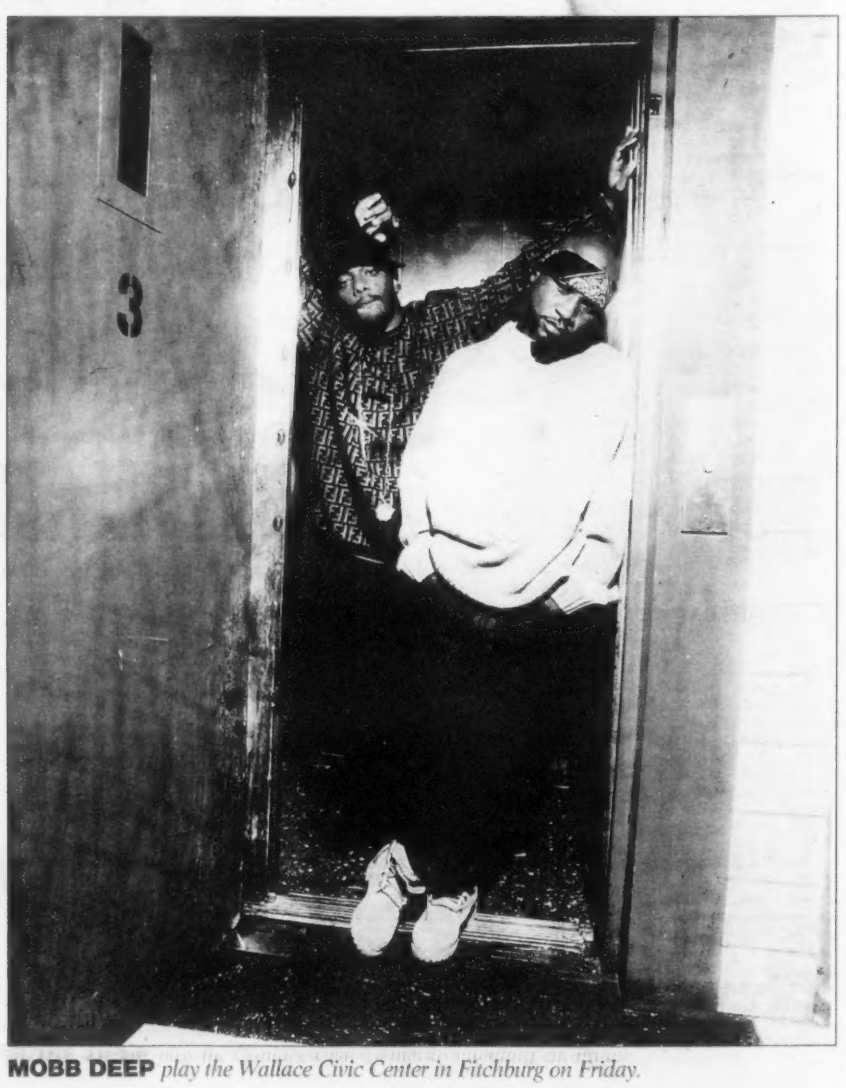
See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

BACK ALLEY THEATRE, Cambridge. "ImprovBoston."
COMEDY CONNECTION, Boston. Wendy Liebman.
COMEDY PALACE AT GRILL 93, Andover. Nick DePaolo, Patti Ross, Stephanie Peter.
DICK DOHERTY'S AT THE CHINA BLOSSOM, North Andover. Patty Ross, Chris Oake, Teresa Craggan.
DICK DOHERTY'S AT THE HOLIDAY INN, Randolph. Paul Nardizzi, Greg Rodrigues, Bari Lee.
DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT, Boston. Jon Fisch.
HOLIDAY INN SELECT, Boston. "Beantown Madness" with Dick Doherty.
HONG KONG, Cambridge. Katie Grady, Laura Kolling, Steve Calechman, Ben Joplin.
HOWARD JOHNSON, Boston. Larry Lee Lewis.
IMPROV ASYLUM THEATER, Boston. "Improv Night."

SUNDAY 18

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

WENDY LIEBMAN *appears at the Comedy Connection this Thursday through Saturday.*



MOBB DEEP *play the Wallace Civic Center in Fitchburg on Friday.*

COMEDY CONNECTION, Boston. "Black Comedy Explosion" with host Jonathan Gates.
HONG KONG, Cambridge. Greg Rodrigues, Thomas Mitchell, Dan Newboweer, Colin Cohen, Noreen Kirkwood.
MIDDLE EAST, Cambridge. Downstairs: at 4 p.m., Jimmy Tingle.

MONDAY 19
See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.
COMEDY CONNECTION, Boston. Kevin Knox.

TUESDAY 20
See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.
COMEDY CONNECTION, Boston. Paul Nardizzi, Robbie Printz.

WEDNESDAY 21
See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.
COMEDY CONNECTION, Boston. Don Gavin, Jon Fisch.
HOWARD JOHNSON, Boston. Larry Lee Lewis.
IMPROV ASYLUM THEATER, Boston. "Improv Night."

THURSDAY 22
See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.
COMEDY CONNECTION, Boston. At 8:30 p.m., "The R-Rated Hypnotist," Frank Santos.
COMEDY PALACE AT GRILL 93, Andover. "Boston Comedy Showcase."
DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT, Boston. "Comedie du Jour."
HOLIDAY INN SELECT, Boston. "Beantown Madness" with Dick Doherty.
HONG KONG, Cambridge. "Thursday Night Fights" starring Tim McIntyre.
IMPROV ASYLUM THEATER, Boston. "Improv Night."

concerts

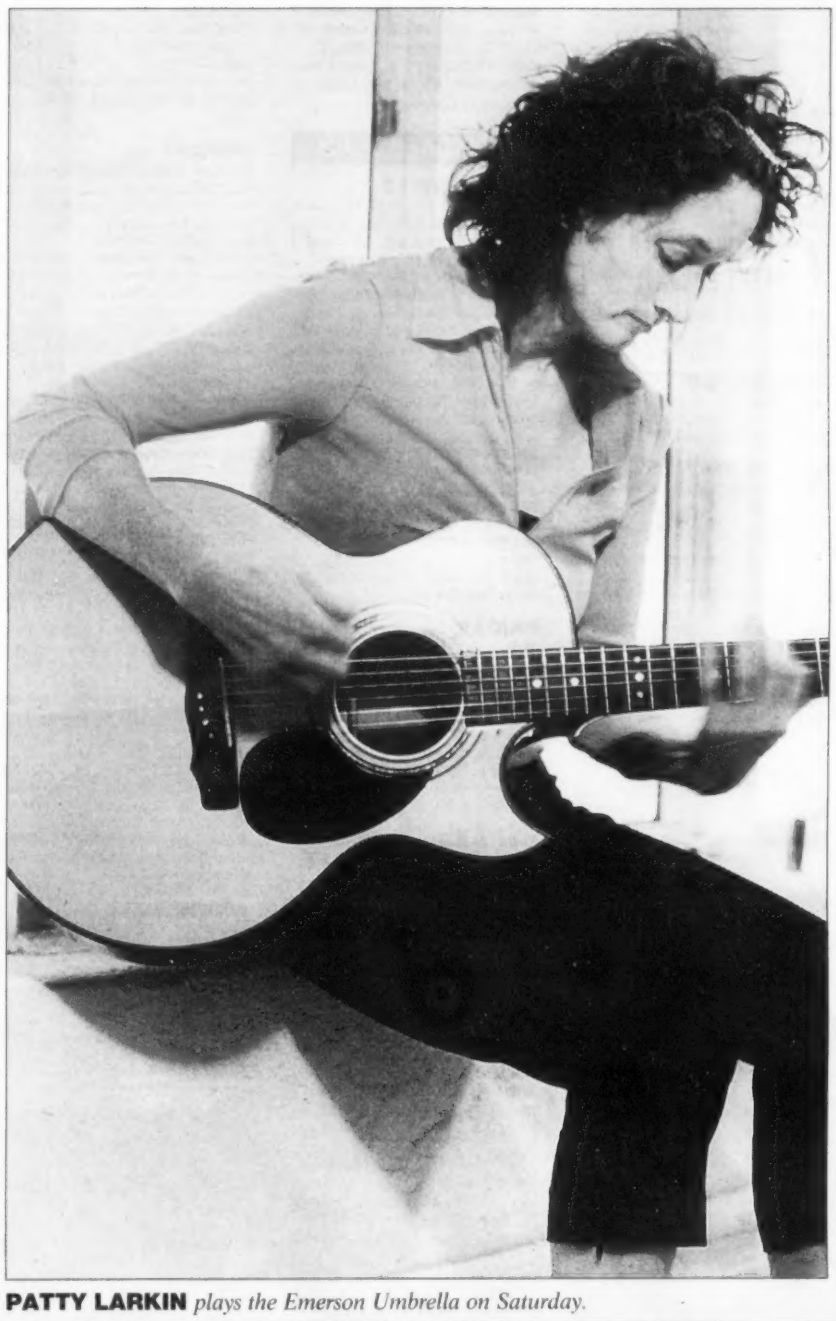
POPULAR

THURSDAY 15
STONE EHLE DUO perform at 6:30 p.m. at Parker Hill Branch Library, 1497 Tremont St., Boston. Free; 427-3820.
AMEL LARRIEUX perform at 8:15 p.m. at Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston. Tickets $4-$7; 747-2261.
NATRAJ performs at 12:30 p.m. at Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley. Free; (781) 283-2028.
PAN AMERICAN AND HRVATSKI perform at 7 p.m. at Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham. Free; (781) 736-2000.
ANDREW SYNCLINE, STOLEN BIKE CRUSADE, CENTER OF THE EARTH, BARBARO, NOOK, AND KANDAKANDERO perform at 7 p.m. at Fox Hall, UMass-Lowell, 1 University Ave., Lowell. Tickets $4; (978) 934-4000.

FRIDAY 16
BARENAKED LADIES perform at 7:30 p.m. at Mullins Center, UMass-Amherst, Amherst. Tickets $25-$38.50; 931-2000.
CAPITOL SEVEN, DOWN CYCLE, RED MERCURY, AT WILL, AND COMATOSE LLOYD perform at 6 p.m. at Portuguese Club, 2 Port St., Hudson. Tickets $7; (978) 568-0561.
NADINE CHASE AND RON GILL perform at 8 p.m. at Museum of Our National Heritage, 33 Marrett Rd., Lexington. Tickets $15-$25; (781) 259-0250.
VANCE GILBERT performs at 8:30 p.m. at Unitarian Church, 28 Mugford St., Marblehead. Tickets $12; (781) 631-8987.
HUDSON FALCONS, THE GCS, FIT FOR ABUSE, TEAR IT UP, LAST IN LINE, AND THE STRIKERS perform at 5 p.m. at Women's Club, 28 Court St., Westfield. Tickets $6; (413) 562-9860.
MAJOR ACCIDENT, FOREIGN LEGION, THE ROACHENDERS, AND VIOLENT SUBVERSIVES perform at 6:30 p.m. at Columbus Theater, 270 Broadway, Providence, RI. Tickets $8; (401) 621-9660.
KATE & ANNA McGARRIGLE perform at 8 p.m. at Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge. Tickets $20-$25; 931-2000.
MOBB DEEP AND CAPONE-N-NOREAGA perform at 7 p.m. at Wallace Civic Center, 1000 John Fitch Highway, Fitchburg. Tickets $30; (978) 345-7300.
MR. CURT AND CHRISTIE LEIGH BELLANY perform at 8 p.m. at Perk's Coffeehouse, 685 Washington St., Norwood. Free; (781) 762-5565.
PUSHING FOR SUMMER, ACTION TAKEN, VERDEL, I REPRESS, AND RIPWIKIT perform at 5 p.m. at Knights of Columbus, 2 Hodges St., Attleboro. Tickets $5; (508) 222-0404.
JOHN SCHINDLER AND CHRIS ELLIOTT perform at 8 p.m. at Beal House, 222 Main St., Kingston. Tickets $5; (781) 871-1052.

SATURDAY 17
ANTARKTIKA, CATHODE RAY TUBE, ENTROPY STRUCT, AND KOLA perform at 8 p.m. at Gallery Bershad, 99 Dover St., Somerville. Tickets $5; 629-9400.
ERYKAH BADU, BILAL, AND TALIB KWELI perform at 7:30 p.m. at Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Pl., Boston. Tickets $36-$56; 228-6000.
MC PAUL BARMAN AND DALEK perform at 10 p.m. at Oxfam Cafe, Tufts University, Medford. Free; 628-5000.
BILL CUDDYER AND STEVE HURL perform at 8:30 p.m. at St. John's Church, Revere & Roanoke Sts., Jamaica Plain. Tickets $7; 524-5432.
DREXEL, ENTROPHY, THE UNABOMBERS, THE SELLOUTS, TULIPS & DAISIES, RICH MACKIN, AND THE PROFITS perform at 6 p.m. at First Parish Church, 842 Tremont St., Duxbury. Tickets $6; (781) 934-6532.
DUANE PETERS & THE HUNNS, THE UN-

Continued on page 12



PATTY LARKIN *plays the Emerson Umbrella on Saturday.*

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Rayzen Cayne
Saturday, February 17
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Sunday Feb 18
SOUTHERN FRIED SOUL SHACK
Monday Feb 19
DISTANT RELATIVES
Tuesday Feb 20
ANOTHER PLANET & FRIENDS
TUESDAYS NOW 18+
Wednesday Feb 21
CLARIAS W/ GROOVE SELECTOR
Thursday Feb 22
FOX TROT ZULU
W/ SP. GUESTS
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Continued from page 11

SEEN, FORCED REALITY, LAST IN LINE, AND RED REACTION perform at 8 p.m. at Mass. Skate, 1029 North Rd., Westfield. Tickets $8; (413) 534-1000.

ERIC FONTANA performs at 8 p.m. at Mocha Java Coffeehouse, 1267 River St., Hyde Park. Free; 364-1991.

GROOVE SELECTOR, SKARMY OF DARKNESS, PACO, PARDON MY ZINGER, THE COOL KIDS, UP THE ANTE, MISSION SEQUENCE LIFE, AND THE BILLY D. BOYS perform at 2 p.m. at Vineyard Church, 40 California Ave., Framingham. Tickets $7; (508) 820-9300.

PATTY LARKIN AND ALASTAIR MOOCK perform at 8 p.m. at Emerson Umbrella, 40 Stow St., Concord. Tickets $20; (978) 369-4127.

THE LATE BLOOMERS AND JACK RADCLIFFE perform at 8 p.m. at Tryworks Coffeehouse, 71 Eighth St., New Bedford. Tickets $5; (508) 994-9686.

DAVID MALLETT AND ADRIENNE JONES perform at 8 p.m. at Orthodox Congregational Church, 17 West St., Mansfield. Tickets $10; (508) 699-8122.

THE RESIDENTS perform at 8 p.m. at Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston. Tickets $25; 747-2261.

"THOMAS A. DORSEY GOSPEL JUBILEE" is Sat. at 7:30 p.m. and Sun. at 8 p.m. at Jordan Hall, NEC, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston. Tickets $10; 536-2412.

WESTON perform at 1 p.m. at Newbury Comics, 36 JFK St., Cambridge. Free; 491-0337.

SUNDAY 18

GENE BERTONCINI & MICHAEL MOORE perform at 3 p.m. in the Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston. Tickets $20; 369-3306.

THE COOL KIDS, INSKAGATORS, JERICHO, BELLYACHE, AND PHIL perform at 6 p.m. at Elks Club, 40 Old Ferry Rd., Lowell. Tickets $7; (978) 452-7081.

CECILIA SMITH QUARTET perform at 3 p.m. at Jordan Hall, NEC, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston. Tickets $15; 357-9750.

THE CATUNES, TWO TON SHOE, WONDERKAT, SCARECROW, AND MOTHER FUNK perform at 7 p.m. at Florian Hall, 55 Hallet St., Dorchester. Tickets $20; (781) 294-7883.

BEN TOUSLEY performs at 4 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 25 the Great Rd., Bedford. Tickets $4; (781) 275-1135.

MONDAY 19

DJ SPOOKY, MC PAUL BARMAN, AND DALEK perform at 8:30 p.m. at Clark University, 950 Main St., Worcester. Tickets $5; (508) 795-6296.

TUESDAY 20

JEFF RAMSEY performs at 8:15 p.m. at Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston. Tickets $4-$7; 747-2261.

WEDNESDAY 21

TREY ANASTASIO performs at 7:30 p.m. at Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Pl., Boston. SOLD OUT.

"JAZZ JAM" with Luther Gray is at 9 p.m. at Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge. Donations accepted; 354-5287.

ED TOMASSI performs at 8:15 p.m. at Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston. Tickets $4-$7; 747-2261.

THURSDAY 22

PAOLO CONTE performs at 8 p.m. at Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Pl., Boston. Tickets $41; 228-6000.

CLAUDE KELLEY AND DETRECE LAVENDER perform at 8:15 p.m. at Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston. Tickets $4-$7; 747-2261.

COMEDY

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FEB 16 PAUL MERCURIO
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FEB 16 ROCCO & ROSIE'S COMEDY ITALIAN WEDDING
A NEW & FUNNIER COMEDY ITALIAN WEDDING
FEB 17 NICK DIPAULO
WRITER FOR THE CHRIS ROCK SHOW FEATURED ON CONAN O'BRIEN TONIGHT SHOW ARSENIO HALL
FEB 23&24 SUE COSTELLO
FROM THE HIT TV SERIES "COSTELLO"
ROSIE'S BACHELORETTE PARTY FEB 23
GREAT FOR GIRL'S NITE OUT
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SAT PAUL MERCURIO

MARLENE & PATRICK TRIO perform at 6:30 p.m. at Parker Hill Branch Library, 1497 Tremont St., Boston. Free; 427-3820.

MIZMOR SHIR perform at 7 p.m. at West Roxbury Branch Library, 1961 Centre St., West Roxbury. Free; 325-3147.

CLASSICAL

THURSDAY 15

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON BLACK CATHOLIC CHOIR performs at 8 p.m. at Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill. Free; 552-6004.

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY SEIJI OZAWA performs Bach's Mass in B minor with vocalists Barbara Bonney, Angelika Kirchschlager, John Mark Ainsley, and Thomas Quasthoff and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus conducted by John Oliver, Thurs. at 8 p.m., Fri. at 1:30 p.m., and Sat. and Tues. at 8 p.m. at Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston. All performances are officially sold out.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE performs works by Shostakovich, Schuller, and others at 8 p.m. at Tsai Performance Center, BU, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston. Free; 353-3349.

NEC WIND ENSEMBLE performs works by Mozart, Knussen, and others at 8 p.m. at Jordan Hall, NEC, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston. Free; 585-1122.

FRIDAY 16

BOSTON UNIVERSITY CHAMBER CHORUS performs at 8 p.m. at Tsai Performance Center, BU, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston. Free; 353-3349.

PETER CONTE performs organ music at 12:15 p.m. at Trinity Church, Copley Sq., Boston. Donations accepted; 536-0944.

FROMM PLAYERS AT HARVARD perform at 8 p.m. at Harvard University Music Building, Harvard Sq., Cambridge. Free; 496-6013.

KATIE LANSDALE performs violin music by Extension Works composers at 8 p.m. at First & Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston. Tickets $10; 497-8693.

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY SEIJI OZAWA. See listing for Thurs.

SATURDAY 17

LES ARTS FLORISSANTS perform Charpentier's *Acteon* and Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* at 8 p.m. at Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge. Tickets $45-$50; 496-2222.

CHAMELEON ARTS ENSEMBLE presents "Oh! for the voices of animals" at 8 p.m. at First & Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston. Tickets $14-$28; 427-8200.

MIT CHAMBER PLAYERS perform works by Peter Child at 8 p.m. at Killian Hall, MIT, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge. Free; 253-2826.

NEW WORLD SYMPHONY performs chamber music at 1:30 p.m. at the Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, Boston. Tickets $17; 734-1359.

RIALTO ENSEMBLE performs works by Handel and others at 8 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge. Tickets $15; 499-1938.

ROBERT TAUB performs piano music by Beethoven at 8 p.m. at Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge. Tickets $20; 566-5218.

YESAROUN DUO performs at 8 p.m. at Temple Ohabei Shalom, 1187 Beacon St., Brookline. Tickets $12; 277-6610.

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY SEIJI OZAWA. See listing for Thurs.

SUNDAY 18

BOSTON CONSERVATORY CHAMBER PLAYERS present an "All-American Presidents' Day Concert" at 4 p.m. at Boston Conservatory, 8 the Fenway, Boston. Tickets $16; 912-9142.

LI FAN & JUN QIN perform chamber music by Beethoven, Debussy, and others at 2 p.m. at Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton. Free; 552-7145.

SEYMOUR LIPKIN performs piano music by Schubert at 1:30 p.m. at the Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, Boston. Tickets $17; 734-1359.

METROPOLITAN WIND ENSEMBLE performs at 3 p.m. at Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill. Free; 552-3018.

PRO ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA performs works by Mozart and others at 3 p.m. at Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge. Tickets $9-$39; 496-2222.

TUESDAY 20

BALLA BRASS QUINTET performs works by Bach, Calvert, and Plog at 12:15 p.m. at King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston. Donations accepted; 227-2155.

REINHOLD BRINKMANN performs piano music by Schoenberg, Krenek, and others at 7 p.m. at Goethe-Institut Boston, 170 Beacon St., Boston. Free; 262-6050.

YURI & DANA MAZURKEVICH perform violin music by Chausson, Brahms, and others at 8 p.m. at Tsai Performance Center, BU, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston. Free; 353-3349.

RYAN TURNER performs vocal music by Beethoven and othes at 4:30 p.m. at Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill. Free; 552-6004.

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY SEIJI OZAWA. See listing for Thurs.

WEDNESDAY 21

STEPHANIE BUDWAY performs organ music at 12:15 p.m. at Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston. Tickets $2; 482-4826.

NEC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA performs works by Bartok, Haydn, and Honegger at 8 p.m. at Jordan Hall, NEC, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston. Free; 585-1122.

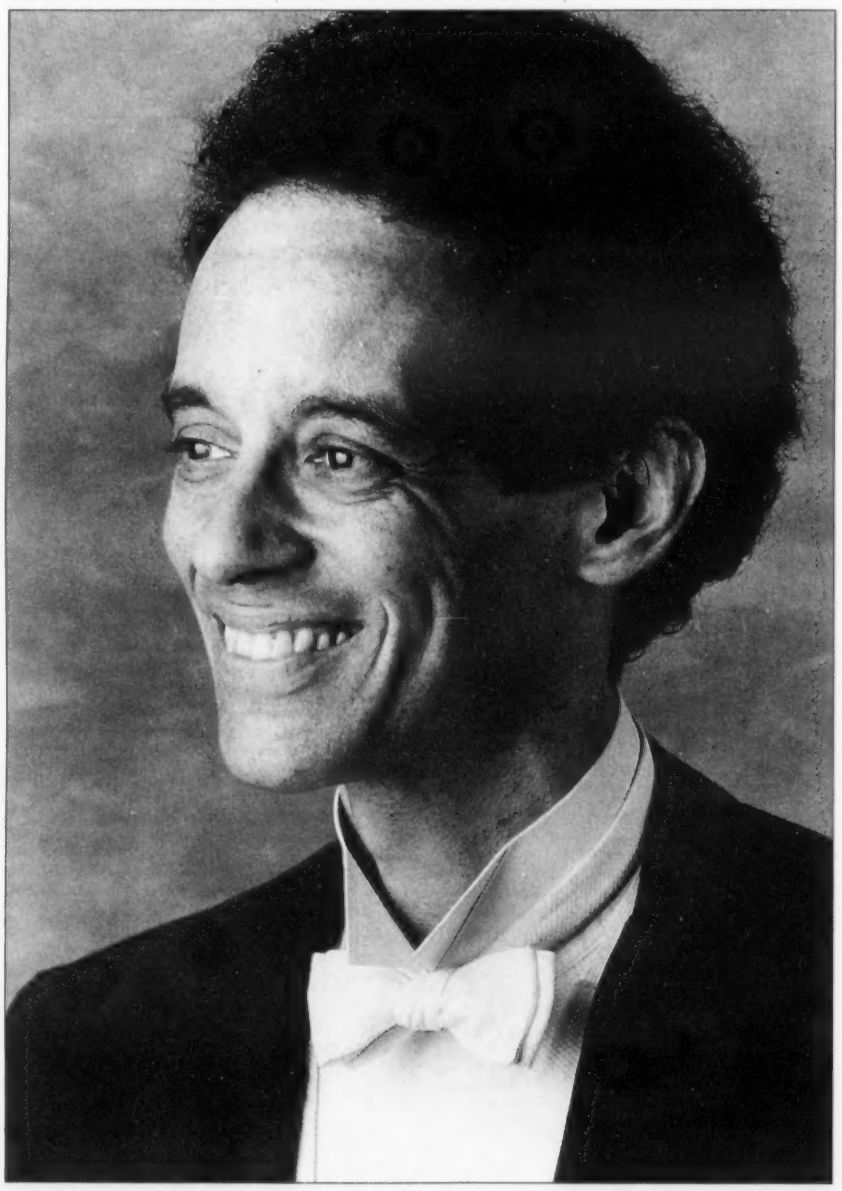
KONSTANTINOS PAPADAKIS performs piano music by Brahms, Bartok, and others at 8 p.m. at Tsai Performance Center, BU, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston. Free; 353-3349.

PAMELA WOOD AND PHIL LIMA perform vocal music at 6 p.m. at YWCA, 40 Berkeley St., Boston. Tickets $7; 351-7637.

THURSDAY 22

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY SEIJI OZAWA performs Williams's Cello Concerto, with Yo-Yo Ma, and Strauss's *Don Quixote*: Fantastic variations on a theme of knightly character, with Yo-Yo Ma and violist Steven Ansell, at 8 p.m. at Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston. This performance is officially sold out.

NEC JORDAN WINDS perform works by Bernard Rogers and others at 8 p.m. at Jordan Hall, NEC, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston. Free; 585-1122.



ISAIAH JACKSON *conducts Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra on Sunday at Sanders Theatre.*

dance

PERFORMANCE

FRIDAY 16

AVILA/WEEKS DANCE present "Finding Movement: An Informance" at 8 p.m. at Sargent Dance Studio, BU, 1 University Rd., Boston. Free; 353-1597.

"BOSTON BALLET DANCERS' RESOURCE FUND BENEFIT PERFORMANCE" is Fri.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m. at Boston Ballet, 19 Clarendon St., Boston. Tickets $20; 695-6955.

SATURDAY 17

"BOSTON BALLET DANCERS' RESOURCE FUND BENEFIT PERFORMANCE." See listing for Fri.

SUNDAY 18

BOSTON MUSICA VIVA PRESENTS "A BOSTON CINDERELLA" at 3 p.m. at Tsai Performance Center, BU, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston. Tickets $20; 931-2000.

WEDNESDAY 21

REGGIE LEWIS DANCE ENSEMBLE performs at 2 p.m. at Grove Hall Branch Library, 5 Crawford St., Roxbury. Free; 427-3337.

THURSDAY 22

BOSTON CONSERVATORY DANCE THEATER perform Thurs.-Sat. at 8 p.m. and Sun. at 2 p.m. at Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway St., Boston. Tickets $26; 912-9140.

THE PARSONS DANCE COMPANY performs Thurs. at 7 p.m., Fri.-Sat. at 8 p.m., and Sun. at 2 p.m. at the Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston. Tickets $35-$45; 824-8000.

PARTICIPATORY

THURSDAY 15

DICK SYATT'S SINGLES DANCES are Thursday at 8 p.m. at Vincent's Nightclub, 6 Billings St., Randolph, and Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Palace, Rte. 99, Saugus. Tickets $5-$7; (978) 443-8131.

EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE is at 8 p.m. at First Unitarian Church, 404 Concord Ave., Belmont. Tickets $6; 491-6083.

NEW ENGLAND CONTRAS & SQUARES is at 8 p.m. at the VFW Hall, 688 Huron Ave., Cambridge. Tickets $5; 354-1340.

SALSA DANCE is at 8:30 p.m. at Karoun Restaurant, 839 Washington St., Newtonville. Tickets $10; 964-3400.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE is at 8 p.m. with a beginners' dance at 7:30 p.m. at the Universalist Church, 211 Bridge St., Salem. Tickets $2; (978) 745-2229.

SWING DANCE is at 8:30 p.m. at Knights of Columbus, 323 Washington St., Brighton. Tickets $8; 254-8700.

TEMPORADA LATINA SALSA AND MERENGUE DANCE is at 8:30 p.m. at Ryles Jazz Club (second floor), 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Tickets $12-$14; 876-9330.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NIGHT is at 9 p.m. at Il Panino, 295 Franklin St., Boston. Free; 338-1000.

FRIDAY 16

BALKAN DANCE is at 7:30 p.m. at Scalzi School of Dance, 101 Bigelow Ave., Watertown. Tickets $8; 840-2362.

CONTRAS & SQUARE DANCE features music by Roaring Jelly at 8 p.m. with a beginners' lesson at 7:45 p.m. at First Parish Church Unitarian Universalist, 7 Harrington Rd., Lexington. Tickets $5; (781) 944-3544.

DANCE FRIDAY is an open-style dance at 8:30 p.m. at the Arlington Town Hall, 730 Mass. Ave., Arlington Center. Tickets $7; 876-3050.

DANCE OF UNIVERSAL PEACE is from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Cambridge Friends Meeting House, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge. Tickets $6-$10; 776-5767.

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE is at 8 p.m. at Park Ave. Congregational Church, Paul Revere Rd., Arlington Heights. Tickets $6, $4 for students; 491-6083.

SALSA AND MERENGUE DANCE is at 9 p.m. at the Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., Boston. Tickets $14; 927-1744.

SALSA DANCE is at 7:30 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 56 Magazine St., Cambridge. Tickets $5; 547-4000.

SINGLES DANCE NEW ENGLAND is at 8 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 357 Great Rd., Bedford. Tickets $7, $6 before 8:30 p.m.; 325-4900.

SWING DANCE is at 7:30 p.m. at the VFW Hall, 688 Huron Ave., Cambridge. Tickets $10-$12; 277-3777.

TANGO DANCE is at 10:30 p.m. at Rialto, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge. Tickets $10; 661-5050.

DICK SYATT'S SINGLES DANCES. See listing for Thurs.

SATURDAY 17

ARGENTINE TANGO DANCE is at 8 p.m. at the VFW Hall, 688 Huron Ave., Cambridge. Tickets $10; 699-6246.

NEW ENGLAND CONTRAS AND SQUARES is at 8 p.m. at Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord. Tickets $6; 547-7781.

RYLES DANCE HALL is at 9 p.m. at Ryles Jazz Club (second floor), 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Tickets $12; 876-9330.

SCANDINAVIAN DANCE PARTY is at 8 p.m. at Calvary United Methodist Church, 300 Mass. Ave., Arlington. Tickets $12; (781) 662-7475.

DICK SYATT'S SINGLES DANCES. See listing for Thurs.

SUNDAY 18

BEGINNERS' TWO-STEP DANCE is at 6:30 p.m. at Carpenters Dance Hall, 1 Southville Rd., Southborough. Tickets $7; (508) 485-2040.

EAST COAST SWING AND TWO-STEP is at 7 p.m. at Ashland Country Dance Hall, 162 West Union St., Ashland. Tickets $4-$8; (508) 435-0950.

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING is from 7:30 to 11 p.m. with instruction at 7 p.m. at the Stratton Student Center Sala de Puerto Rico, MIT, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, 2nd Floor, Cambridge. Tickets $1; 253-FOLK.

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING is at 8 p.m. at Harvard-Radcliffe Hillel, 52 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge. Tickets $3, $2 for students; 254-HORA.

NEFFA/FAC DAMILY DANCE features international folk dancing from 2 to 4 p.m. at Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord. Tickets $4; 491-6083.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline. Tickets $4; 325-6557.

SWING DANCE with instruction and live band is at 6 p.m. at the Sit N' Bull Pub, 163 Main St., Maynard. Tickets $8; (978) 897-4663.

MONDAY 19

BALKAN DANCE CLASS is at 7:30 p.m. at Green Street Studio, 185 Green St., Cambridge. Tickets $12; 840-2362.

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING is at 8 p.m. at Temple Kehillath Israel, 384 Harvard Ave., Brookline. Tickets $4, $3 for students; 484-6084.

LINE DANCE is at 6:30 p.m. at Carpenters Dance Hall, 1 Southville Rd., Southborough. Tickets $5; (508) 485-2040.

NEW ENGLAND SQUARES AND CONTRAS features music by Yankee Ingenuity at 7:30 p.m. at Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord. Tickets $6; (781) 272-0396.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE is at 8 p.m. at the Central Square YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge. Tickets $6; 484-0950.

TUESDAY 20

BALKAN DANCE is at 8:30 p.m. at Sava Serbian Orthodox Church, 33 West Water St., Wakefield. Tickets $7; 246-9663.

CDS TUESDAY SERIES is at 8 p.m. at Park Ave. Congregational Church, Paul Revere Rd., Arlington Heights. Tickets $6; (781) 662-6710.

SWING NIGHT is at 10 p.m. at Ryles Jazz Club (second floor), 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Tickets $6; 266-2258.

WEDNESDAY 21

DANCE FREEDOM is a smoke- and alcohol-free barefoot dance at 7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge. Tickets $6; (978) 369-7522.

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE is from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. at Park Ave. Congregational Church, Paul Revere Rd., Arlington Heights. Tickets $6, $3 for students; 354-1340.

FRAMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE is from 8 to 10:30 p.m. at Fayville Village Hall, Central & Grove Sts., Southboro. Tickets $3.50; (508) 872-4110.

ISRAELI DANCE is at 7:30 p.m. with instruction at 7 p.m. at the Stratton Student Center Sala de Puerto Rico, MIT, 84 Mass. Ave., 2nd Floor, Cambridge. Free; 253-FOLK.

SINGLES DANCE is at 8 p.m. at Good Time Emporium, 30 Assembly Square Mall, Somerville. Tickets $5; 628-5559.

SWING, BALLROOM, AND LATIN DANCING is at 6:30 p.m. at Carpenters Dance Hall, 1 Southville Rd., Southborough. Tickets $8; (508) 485-2040.

THURSDAY 22

DICK SYATT'S SINGLES DANCES. See listing for previous Thurs.

EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE. See listing for previous Thurs.

NEW ENGLAND CONTRAS AND SQUARES. See listing for previous Thurs.

SALSA DANCE. See listing for previous

hurs.
COTTISH COUNTRY DANCE. See listing for revious Thurs.
WING DANCE. See listing for previous hurs.
EMPORADA LATINA SALSA AND MERENGUE DANCE. See listing for previous hurs.
OUNG PROFESSIONALS NIGHT. See listng for previous Thurs.

events

THURSDAY 15
INTERNATIONAL WINTER WINE TASTING is at 5 p.m. at Angelo's Ristorante, 575 Boylston St., Boston. Tickets $40; 536-4045.
ISAIAH JACKSON RECEPTION is at 8 p.m. at Blacksmith House, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge. Tickets $8; 547-6789.

FRIDAY 16
CHEF'S PALATE DINNER is at 6 p.m. at Hampshire House, 84 Beacon St., Boston. Tickets $75; 227-9600.

SATURDAY 17
SNOWSHOE SAFARI is at 11 a.m. at Franklin Park Golf Course, Circuit Dr., Boston. Free; 635-7383.

SUNDAY 18
BLACK HISTORY MONTH SERVICE with Gloria Hammond is at 3:30 p.m. at Memorial Church, Harvard University, Harvard Sq., Cambridge. Free; 495-5508.
LUMBERJACK JAMBOREE is from noon to 3 p.m. at Houghtons Pond, Blue Hills Reservation, 695 Hillside St., Milton. Free; 698-1802.

WEDNESDAY 21
CHEF STAN FRANKENTHALER leads a cooking class at 6:30 p.m. at Boston University, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston. Tickets $40; 353-9852.

fairs

SUNDAY 18
OLD RADIO FLEA MARKET is from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Regency Inn, Rte. 495 Exit 32, Westford. Tickets $7; (978) 371-0512.

benefits

THURSDAY 15
KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT STUDENT INTERNSHIP FUND BENEFIT AUCTION is at 5:30 p.m. at ARCO Forum, 79 JFK St., Cambridge. Free; 496-9160.

FRIDAY 16
INDIA EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS BENEFIT is at 6:30 p.m. at Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain. $5-$10 donation; 524-6373.
THE ELLIE FUND DANCE PARTY is at 8 p.m. at Veronique Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline. Tickets $12; 266-2258.

SATURDAY 17
THE AIDS QUILT SONGBOOK is a benefit performance for the Boston Living Center at 7:30 p.m. at Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston. Tickets $15; 236-1012.

THURSDAY 22
WGBH VINTNER DINNER is at 7 p.m. at Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston. Tickets $300; 439-7000.

gay & lesbian

THURSDAY 15
30+ LESBIAN RAP is at 7 p.m. at the Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge. Free; 354-8807.

MONDAY 19
LESBIAN RAP is at 7:30 p.m. at the Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge. Free; 354-8807.

THURSDAY 22
30+ LESBIAN RAP. See listing for previous Thurs.

readings

THURSDAY 15
EUGENE GADDIS signs his *Magician of the Modern* at 6 p.m. at Sackler Museum, Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge. Free; 661-1515.
DANA MILBANK signs his *Smashmouth* at 7 p.m. at WordsWorth Books, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge. Free; 354-5201.
SUSAN ORLEAN signs her *The Bullfighter Checks Her Makeup* at 7 p.m. at Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline. Free; 566-6660.
CHARLIE PIERCE signs his *Sports Guy* at 7:30 p.m. at Newtonville Books, 296 Walnut St., Newtonville. Free; 244-6619.
MARGARET SHEPHERD signs her *Learn Calligraphy* at 6 p.m. in the Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, Copley Sq., Boston. Free; 536-5400, ext. 2225.

LESLIE GLASS *reads at Kate's Mystery Books on Wednesday.*

FRIDAY 16
MARY PALEVSKY signs her *Atomic Fragments* at 3 p.m. at Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Free; 661-1515.
"POETRY OPEN MIC" is hosted by Askia Toure at 7:30 p.m. at Jamaicaway Books & Gifts, 676 Centre St., Jamaica Plain. Free; 983-3204.
SILVAN SCHWEBER signs *In the Shadow of the Bomb* at 3 p.m. at Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Free; 661-1515.
"WOMEN'S POETRY OPEN MIC" is at 7:15 p.m. at Arlington St. Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston. Tickets $3; 371-7124.

SATURDAY 17
CHYNA signs her *If They Only Knew* at 1 p.m. at Booksmith, 300 Mishawum Rd., Woburn. Free; (781) 938-0277.
JORIE GRAHAM AND MARK LEVINE read poetry at 4 p.m. at the Burren, 247 Elm St., Somerville. Free; 776-6896.
"POETRY OPEN MIC" with host Deb Priestley is at 8 p.m. at Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge. Donations accepted; 354-5287.

SUNDAY 18
BROTHER BLUE reads poetry at 11 a.m. at Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston. Free; 266-6710.
"POETRY EXCHANGE" is a discussion group at 3 p.m. at Harvard Square Coop, 1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Free; 499-2000.

MONDAY 19
LAWRENCE KRAUSER signs his *Lemon* at 7 p.m. at Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline. Free; 566-6660.
"STONE SOUP POETRY OPEN MIC" is at 7:30 p.m. at the Middle East Downstairs, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Tickets $4; 864-EAST.

TUESDAY 20
"AGAPE POETRY OPEN MIC" is at 8 p.m. at Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston. $1 donation; 489-0519.
CHARLES BERNSTEIN signs his *Republics of Reality, 1975-1995* at 5:30 p.m. at Houghton Library, Harvard University, Harvard Sq., Cambridge. Free; 495-2454.
PETER CAREY signs his *True History of the Kelly Gang* at 6 p.m. at Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline. Tickets $2; 566-6660.
RAYMOND FLYNN & ROBIN MOORE sign their *The Accidental Pope* at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 1 Worcester Rd., Framingham. Free; (508) 628-5567.
AMY GUTMAN signs her *Equivocal Death* at 7 p.m. at the Harvard Coop, 1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Free; 499-2000.
JOANNA HERSHON signs her *Swimming* at 7:30 p.m. at Newtonville Books, 296 Walnut St., Newtonville. Free; 244-6619.
WAYNE WILSON signs his *Eddie & Bella* at 6 p.m. at Borders, 10-24 School St., Boston. Free; 557-7188.

WEDNESDAY 21
BETH DANIEL signs her *Let's Go Turkey* at 6 p.m. at First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge. Free; (800) 358-6013.
LESLIE GLASS signs her *Tracking Time* at 7 p.m. at Kate's Mystery Books, 2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Free; 491-2660.
DEBORAH KOGAN signs her *Shutterbabe* at 7:30 p.m. at the Harvard Coop, 1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Free; 499-2000.
PHYLLIS MINDELL signs her *How to Say It for Women* at 7 p.m. at the Harvard Coop, 1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Free; 499-2000.

THURSDAY 22
ANN CRITTENDON signs her *The Price of Motherhood* at 6 p.m. at New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Free; 876-5310.
KATHRYN GREENTHAL signs her *Augustus Saint-Gaudens* at 12:15 p.m. at Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston. Tickets $5; 482-6439.
SHELBY HEARON signs her *Ella in Bloom* at 7:30 p.m. at Newtonville Books, 296 Walnut St., Newtonville. Free; 244-6619.
JAMAICA KINCAID signs her *Talk Stories* at 6 p.m. at Sackler Museum, Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge. Free; 661-1515.
ELLEN ROSEN signs her *Making Sweatshops* at 12:30 p.m. at Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham. Free; (781) 736-3097.
TELLER signs his *When I'm Dead All This Will Be Yours* at 12:30 p.m. at Borders, 10-24 School St., Boston. Free; 557-7188.

talks

THURSDAY 15
"BLACK BOSTON IN THE 19TH CENTURY" isd a lecture by Bernadette Williams at 7:30 p.m. at Dorchester Historical Society, 195 Boston St., Dorchester. Free; 265-7802.
"GENEALOGY AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES" is a lecture by Walter Hickey at 7:30 p.m. at Medford Public Library, 111 High St., Medford. Free; (781) 395-7950.
"THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CIVIL WAR SPY ELIZABETH VAN LEW" is a lecture by Elizabeth Varon at 12:15 p.m. at Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston. Tickets $5; 482-6439.
"MOUNTAINEERING IN NEPAL" is a lecture by Chris Dame at 7:30 p.m. at Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton. Free; 552-7145.
"MYTHS AND REALITIES OF THE ASIAN AMERICAN FEMALE" is a lecture by Judy Tso at 7 p.m. at Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline. Tickets $5; 730-2700.
"OBSCENE ALLEGORIES IN PRAISE OF THE PAINTINGS OF JOHN WESLEY" is a lecture by Wayne Koestenbaum at 6 p.m. at Carpenter Center, Harvard University, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge. Free; 495-3251.
"THE SOURCES OF CREATIVITY" is a discussion at 12:15 p.m. at Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham. Free; (781) 736-2000.

FRIDAY 16
"EXPLORING THE MYTHIC IMAGINATION: GREEK MYTHS AND MODERN METAPHORS" is a discussion at 7:30 p.m. at First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge. Free; 591-9959.
HOWARD ZINN speaks at 6 p.m. at Northeastern School of Law, 400 Huntington Ave., Boston. Free; 983-5134.

SATURDAY 17
"THE ART OF FLORENCE AND VENICE, 1420-1520" is a discussion from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Sackler Museum, Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge. Free; 495-2397.
"CAJUN OR ZYDECO? THE MUSIC OF SOUTH LOUISIANA" is a lecture by Scott Billington at 4 p.m. at Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 1 Story St., Cambridge. Tickets $10; 876-4275.
"IMPROVING YOUR HEALTH AND FITNESS" is a lecture by Philip Barron at 12:30 p.m. at Connolly Branch Library, 433 Centre St., Jamaica Plain. Free; 522-1960.
"THE LIFE OF LYSANDER SPOONER" is a lecture by Judy Jackson at 2 p.m. at Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston. Free; 524-0218.
QUEBEC ANTI-GLOBALIZATION ACTIVISTS speak at noon at Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston. Free; 266-6710.

SUNDAY 18
"THE AMIRAULT CASE" is a lecture by Barbara Anderson at 10:30 a.m. at Ethical Society of Boston, 1 Follen St., Cambridge. Free; 739-9050.
"EYEWITNESS REPORT FROM IRAQ" is a discussion with John McLeod and George Cappaccio at 2 p.m. at Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston. Free; 266-6710.

TUESDAY 20
"HUMAN RIGHTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND HIV/AIDS" is a discussion at 6 p.m. in the Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, Copley Sq., Boston. Free; 536-5400, ext. 2336.
"MITTERRAND'S GRAND PROJECTS IN PARIS" is a lecture by Naomi Miller at noon at Marsh Chapel, BU, 735 Comm. Ave., Boston. Free; 353-3560.

WEDNESDAY 21
"THE CONTINGENT OBJECT OF CONTEMPORARY ART" is a lecture by Martha Buskirk at 4 p.m. at Harvard University, 6 Ash St., Cambridge. Free; 495-8212.
"FILLING IN THE OUTLINES" is a discussion at 7 p.m. at Gallery Bershad, 99 Dover St., Somerville. Free; 629-9400.
"OASIS ON ALBANY STREET: THE ARTISTS COLLECTIVE" is a discussion at 2 p.m. at Harvard Graduate School of Education, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge. Free; 495-9068.
"PRESERVING HUMANITY'S MONUMENTS" is a lecture by Laurie Beckelman at 6 p.m. in the Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, Copley Sq., Boston. Free; 536-5400, ext. 2336.

THURSDAY 22
"GENDER, NATION & STATE: REFLECTIONS ON INDIA" is a discussion at 4 p.m. at Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston. Free; 373-4984.
"UNSUNG HEROES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION" is a lecture by Faith Girdler at 2 and 7 p.m. at Jamaicaway Books & Gifts, 676 Centre St., Jamaica Plain. Free; 983-3204.

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art listings

galleries

Admission to the following galleries is free, unless otherwise noted. In addition to the hours listed here, many galleries are open by appointment. Galleries are in Boston, except where indicated otherwise. Galleries with photo exhibitions are listed under Photography.

NEWBURY STREET/ BACK BAY

ALFRED J. WALKER FINE ART (247-1319), 158 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Permanent collection features American and Continental paintings and drawings of the 19th and 20th centuries.

ALPHA GALLERY (536-4465), 14 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through March 7: paintings by Katharina Chapuis.

AMERICAN ROYAL ARTS ANIMATION ART GALLERY (424-0640), 166 Newbury St., Boston. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun., noon-6 p.m. Ongoing exhibitions of celluloids and drawings used in the production of cartoons and animated films.

ARDEN GALLERY (247-0610), 129 Newbury St., Boston. Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through Feb. 28: paintings by Anthony James.

ART INSTITUTE OF BOSTON (262-1223), 700 Beacon St., Boston. Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Through March 18: Faculty Exhibition.

BARBARA KRAKOW GALLERY (262-4490), 10 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through March 7: "Jim Stroud: Linear Strategies."

CAMELOT GALLERY (800-956-5618), 221 Newbury St., Boston. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun., noon-6 p.m. Features over 100 limited edition canvas lithographs by Thomas Kinkade.

CHAPPELL GALLERY (236-2255), 14 Newbury St., Boston Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through March 10: works by Etsuko Nishi.

CHASE GALLERY (859-7222), 129 Newbury St., Boston. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through Feb. 27: works by Francisco Benitez and Allen Whiting.

COPLEY SOCIETY OF BOSTON (536-5049), 158 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through Feb. 24: "Cheryl Sorg: Allure."

ECLIPSE GALLERY (247-6730), 167 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Through Feb. 24: paintings by Winston Breedy.

EQUATOR GALLERY (266-4110), 218 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Thurs., noon-6 p.m.; Fri.-Sun., 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Ongoing: woodcarvings and watercolors; ceramics by Sasha Raiz; lithographs by Oswaldo Guayasamin.

EXOTICAR MODEL GALLERY (267-8368), 114 Newbury St., Boston. Call for hours. Ongoing: automotive art, novelty clothing, collectibles, die-cast models, and exotic cars.

GALLERY 79 (262-5918), 79 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., noon-5 p.m. Through March 9: "Jorg Ingo Fraske: Imaginary Landscapes."

GALLERY NAGA (267-9060), 67 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through Feb. 24: works by Yizhak Elyashiv and Stuart Ober.

HARCUS GALLERY (451-3221), 6 Melrose St., Boston. Call for hours. Ongoing: Boston Group Artists show.

HOWARD YEZERSKI GALLERY (262-0550), 14 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through Feb. 27: group show.

JUDY ANN GOLDMAN FINE ART (424-8468), 14 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through Feb. 24: "Santiago Hernandez: Tropicana."

JUST AFRICA GALLERY (536-1648), 201 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Ongoing: contemporary stone sculptures by major and emerging artists from Zimbabwe, including works by Henry Munyaradzi and Gladman Zinyeka.

KELLY BARRETTE FINE ART (266-2475), 129 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Ongoing: revolving exhibit featuring works by Lisa Houck, Nancy Wagner, and others.

MPG (437-1596), 285 Newbury St., Boston. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through Feb. 26: "The American Land," paintings by Ethan Murrow and Jonathan Goode.

NIELSEN GALLERY (266-4835), 179 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through Feb. 24: works by Sungjoon Joh and Carol Keller.

PEPPER GALLERY (236-4497), 38 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through Feb. 20: drawings by Eileen Gillespie.

SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS (266-1810), 175 Newbury St., Boston. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Through Feb. 25: "Mass. Cultural Council Craft Grant Recipients & Finalists Traveling Exhibition."

ST. GEORGE GALLERY (424-0024), 162 Boylston St., Boston. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: "William St. George: Florals."

A TOUCH OF FRANCE GALLERY (262-0252), 173 Newbury St., Boston. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Ongoing: paintings by French artists.

UPSTAIRS AT JOHNSON'S (536-4065), 355 Newbury St., Boston. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sat., 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Through Feb. 26: "Eleanor Elkin and Robin Henschel: Creatures in Cloth and Clay."

VIA GALLERY (424-1750), 83 Newbury St., 2nd Fl. Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., noon-4 p.m. Through Feb. 24: works by Christiane Wallace and Cecilia Lieder.

SOUTH END

ARS LIBRI (357-4212), 560 Harrison Ave., Boston. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Permanent collection features rare and scholarly books in the fine arts.

BERNARD TOALE GALLERY (482-2477), 450 Harrison Ave., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through Feb. 24: "Chris Komater: Harem."

BROMFIELD GALLERY (451-3605), 560 Harrison Ave., Boston. Wed.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Through Feb. 24: works by Robin Cass and Joyce Zavorskas.

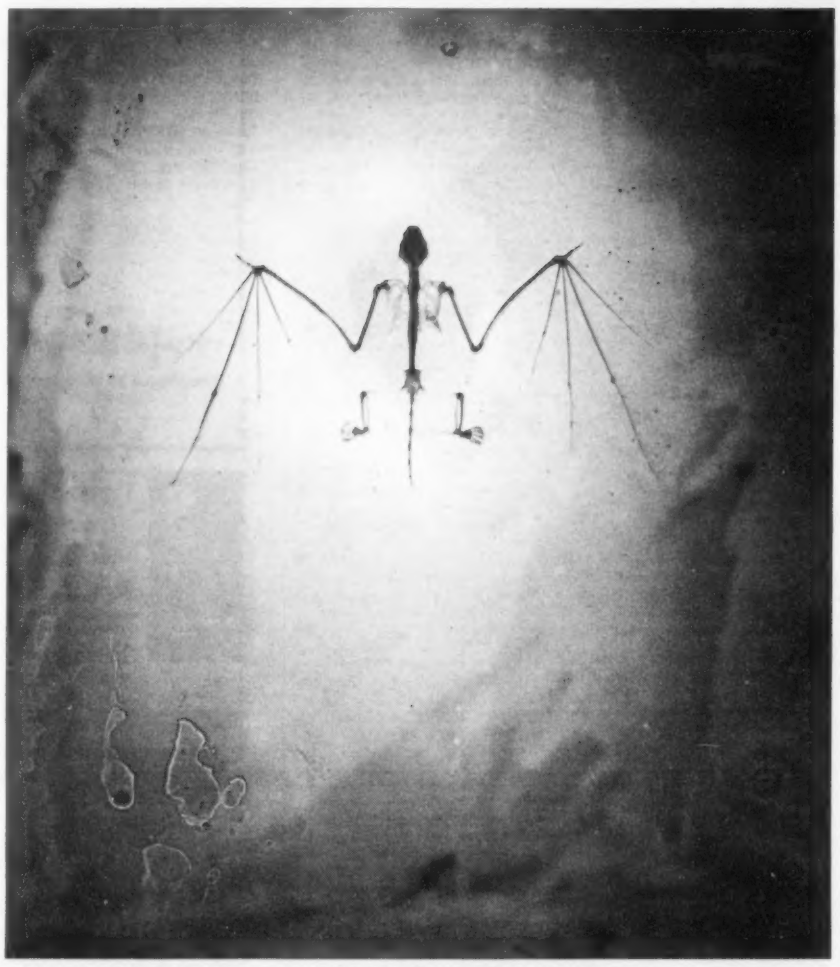
GALLERY NATURE & TEMPTATION (247-1719), 40 St. Stephen St., Boston. By appointment only. Through Feb. 28: "Night Wind."

GENOVESE/SULLIVAN GALLERY (426-9738), 47 Thayer St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through March 7: "Persistent Painting."

HAMILL GALLERY OF AFRICAN ART (442-8204) 2164 Washington St., Boston. Wed.-Sat., noon-6 p.m. Through Feb. 24: "Art of the Tsogo."

KINGSTON GALLERY (423-4113), 37 Thayer St., Boston. Wed.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Through Feb. 25: "Audrey Goldstein: Diaphanometer."

SOUTH END BRANCH LIBRARY (536-8241), 685 Tremont St., Boston. Mon.-Wed., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thurs., noon-8 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Through Feb. 20: "Heidi Whitman: Brainstorm."



JAYNE HINDS BIDAUT'S *TADARIDA BRASILIENSIS* *is part of "The Crafted Image: Nineteenth-Century Techniques in Contemporary Photography," on display through February 25 at Boston University Art Gallery.*

DOWNTOWN

CROSSTOWN ART GALLERY (720-0100), 1 North Sq., Boston. Call for hours. Through Feb. 16: sculpture and drawings by Peter Inglis.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF BOSTON (973-3453), 600 Atlantic Ave., Boston. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Through Feb. 23: "North Bennet Street School Exhibit."

FORT POINT ARTS COMMUNITY GALLERY (423-4299), 300 Summer St., Boston. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sat., noon-5 p.m. Feb. 16-March 23: "Redeeming the Abandoned." Reception Feb. 16, 6-9 p.m.

GALLERY M3, (654-1665), 300 Summer St., Boston. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Through March 12: paintings by Jose Santos. Reception Feb. 16, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

GALLERY OF SOCIAL/POLITICAL ART (266-6710), Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston. Fri.-Sat., 2-6 p.m.; Sun., 1:30-5 p.m. Through March 4: "Environmental Injustices."

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NEW ENGLAND ANTIQUITIES HEADQUARTERS (570-9105), 1 Bowdoin Sq., Boston. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Through April 30: "Pilgrims, Patriots & Products: Selling the Colonial Image."

STATE TRANSPORTATION BUILDING (437-1226), 10 Park Plaza, 2nd Fl., Boston. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Through Feb. 25: "*Boston Globe* Scholastic Art Awards Exhibit."

OTHER BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS

ALLSTON SKIRT GALLERY (254-7027), 129 Braintree St., Allston. Wed.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Through Feb. 24: "Scott Reeder and David Robbins: Pretty Funny."

ARTS & MORE (522-0089), 31 Germania St., Jamaica Plain. Daily, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Ongoing: works by Henry DeLeon, Roy Kavetsky, J. Gregory Cisneros, Michael Shores, and others.

CONNOLLY BRANCH LIBRARY (522-1960), 433 Centre St., Jamaica Plain. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: "Africa Descended."

DISTILLERY (464-3561), 516 East Second St., South Boston. Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., noon-5 p.m.

— Artists Foundation Galleries and Video Room. Sat., noon-5 p.m. Through Feb. 17: works by Nina Fletcher, installation by Kate Cleary, and video by Ben Jones.

DUDLEY BRANCH LIBRARY (442-6186), 65 Warren St., Roxbury. Call for hours. Through March 16: "Long Road for Justice: The African-American Experience in Massachusetts." Through Feb. 28: "Youth Art Show."

EGLESTON BRANCH LIBRARY (445-4340), 2044 Columbus Ave., Roxbury. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: "Sisters in Stitches Quilt Show."

ELIAS FINE ART (783-1888), 120 Braintree St., Rear, Allston. Wed.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Through Feb. 24: "100 lbs of Clay," installation by Charles Long.

GALLERY AT GREEN STREET (522-0000), 141 Green St., Jamaica Plain. Wed.-Sat., noon-5 p.m.; Tues.-Thurs., 6-9 p.m. Through March 3: "Turnscope," installation by Ellen Driscoll and Nick Tobier.

GROVE HALL BRANCH LIBRARY (427-3337), 5 Crawford St., Roxbury. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: "The Textiles of Zimbabwe."

MOBIUS (542-7416), 354 Congress St., Boston. Wed.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Through March 3: "The Learning Mirror," installation by Shawn Gurczak.

PAOLO'S TRATTORIA (354-5287), 251 Main St., Charlestown. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: paintings by Stojan Maksimovic.

ZUMIX (568-9777), 202 Maverick St., East Boston. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: "Circle, Cycle, Delta."

CAMBRIDGE/ SOMERVILLE/ WATERTOWN

CAMBRIDGE ART ASSOCIATION Lowell Street Gallery (876-0246), 25 Lowell St., Cambridge. Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Feb. 21-April 12: "Beauty."

CAMBRIDGE CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION (547-6789, ext. 1), Cambridge Center Gallery, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge. Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Through Feb. 15: "Maria Termini: Visions of Color."

CAMBRIDGE MULTICULTURAL ARTS CENTER (577-1400), 41 Second St., Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through Feb. 20: "Nadine Zanow: Myth and Memory."

CITIZENS BANK CENTRAL SQUARE BRANCH (354-5287), 617 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: works by Karl Stevens.

CLUB PASSIM, (492-7679), 47 Palmer St., Harvard Sq., Cambridge. Daily, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Through Feb. 21: "Dusty Knight and Jodi Hays-Gresham: Two on the Figure."

GALLERY BERSHAD (629-9400), 99 Dover St., Somerville. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Through March 2: "Schematically Inclined."

MIDDLE EAST (864-EAST), 472 Mass. Ave.,Cambridge. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: paintings by Scott Cahaly and John Geannaris. Reception Feb. 18, 3-5 p.m.

MOBILIA GALLERY (876-2109), 358 Huron Ave., Cambridge. Tues.-Fri., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Through March 3: "The Ring."

OUT OF THE BLUE GALLERY (354-5287), 168 Brookline St., Cambridge. Wed.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Through March 31: "Figurative Art Show."

SACRAMENTO STREET GALLERY (349-6287), at the Agassiz Community Center, 20 Sacramento St., Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Through Feb. 23: paintings by Johanna Winter-Harper.

1369 COFFEEHOUSE CENTRAL SQUARE (576-4600), 757 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Daily, 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Through Feb. 28: works by Jess Lawrence. Reception Feb. 18, 7-9 p.m.

1369 COFFEEHOUSE INMAN SQUARE (576-1369), 1369 Cambridge St., Cambridge. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: works by John Gagan. Reception Feb. 18, 7-9 p.m.

UNIVERSITY PLACE GALLERY (876-0246), 124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Through Feb. 26: "Art of Love."

WAINWRIGHT BANK (349-4380), 1 Broadway, Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Through April 13: paintings and sculpture by David Shapiro.

BROOKLINE/ NEWTON

BOSTON SCULPTORS AT CHAPEL GALLERY (244-4039), 60 Highland St., West Newton. Wed.-Sun., 1-5:30 p.m. Through March 4: "Optical Allusion," film installation by Bruce Bemis.

GATEWAY GALLERY (734-1577), 62 Harvard St., Brookline. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sat., noon-4 p.m. Through March 17: "Self & Other."

JANUS (739-5769), 77 Harvard St., Brookline. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Through March 2: "Stephen Burt: Unsettling Myths."

LEVENTHAL-SIDMAN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER Starr Gallery (558-6485), 333 Nahanton St., Newton. Mon.-Thurs., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fri., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tues.-Wed., 6-9 p.m. Through April 29: "Albert Alcalay: A Life in Art."

LYMAN-EYER GALLERY (964-3470), 1347 Washington St., West Newton. Tues.-Fri., 4-7:30 p.m.; Sat., 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Through March 4: "Winter Showcase."

NEW ART CENTER (964-3424), 61 Washington Park, Newtonville. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through Feb. 16: "21st Century Metalsmiths."

NEWTON FREE LIBRARY (552-7145), 330 Homer St., Newton Centre. Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Through Feb. 27: "Ci•vis: Portraits of Newton," by Susan Avishai.

PERRIN GALLERY (277-4357), 320A Harvard St., Brookline. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Through March 10: "Caroline Bagenal: Watching the Dark." Reception Feb. 15, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

SUBURBS: SOUTH

GALLERY X (508-992-2675), 169 William St., New Bedford. Wed.-Sun., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Through Feb. 25: "Carnival X."

SOUTH SHORE ART CENTER (781-383-2787), 119 Ripley Rd., Cohasset. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., noon-4 p.m. Through Feb. 25: "Faculty Exhibition."

VENTRESS LIBRARY (781-837-8091), Webster St., Marshfield. Mon.-Wed., 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Thurs.-Sat., 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through March 31: "Familiar Places & Open Spaces," watercolors by Maureen Brookfield.

SUBURBS: NORTH

ACACIA GALLERY (978-283-7200), 33 Main St., Gloucester. Wed.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 15-April 1: group show. Reception Feb. 18, 2-5 p.m.

ARLINGTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS Gibbs Gallery (781-648-6220), 41 Foster St., Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Through March 21: "Modules."

BRUSH ART GALLERY (978-459-7819), 256 Market St., Lowell. Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon to 4 p.m. Feb. 18-April 15: "Home? Crosscurrents in Contemporary South Asian/ American Art." Reception Feb. 18, 2-4 p.m.

COURTNEY FINE ART (781-631-0524), 7 Pleasant St., Marblehead. Thurs.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Through Feb. 27: "On the Verge."

MINGO GALLERY (978-927-5964), 252 Cabot St., Beverly. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Through Feb. 23: "Karyl and Lori Hayes: Overlaps."

SUBURBS: WEST

CENTER FOR THE ARTS IN NATICK (508-647-0179), 31 Main St., Natick. Mon.-Sat., noon-6 p.m.; Sun., noon-2 p.m. Through Feb. 28: paintings by Hank Kearsley.

CLARK GALLERY (781-259-8303), Mall at Lincoln Station, 145 Lincoln Rd., Lincoln. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m; until 7 p.m. on Wed. Through Feb. 28: works by Donald Saaf and Julia Zanes.

DEPOT SQUARE GALLERY (781-863-1597), 1837 Mass. Ave., Lexington. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sun., noon-4 p.m. Through Feb. 25: paintings by Susan Schneider and Monjushri Micah Schatz.

LEXINGTON ARTS AND CRAFTS SOCIETY (781-862-9696), 130 Waltham St., Lexington. Tues.-Fri., noon-4 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., noon-4 p.m. Through Feb. 25: "A Holding Place: Containers in Clay."

WELLESLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (781-235-6690), 229 Washington St., Wellesley. Thurs., 4:30-7:30 p.m.; Sat., 1:30-3:30 p.m.; Mon., Wed., 2-4:30 p.m. Through May 31: "Worked with Infinite Patience: The Lace Collection of Esther Oldham."

CAPE COD

FINE ARTS WORK CENTER Hudson D. Walker Gallery (508-487-9960), 24 Pearl St., Provincetown. Mon., Thurs.-Fri., 5-8 p.m.; Sat., noon-4 p.m. and 5-8 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Through April 10: "Visual Arts Fellows Exhibit." Reception Friday, 6-8 p.m.

UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE (261-2440), 1 Courthouse Way, Boston. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Through March 23: works by Alex Avreski.

museums

AMERICAN TEXTILE HISTORY MUSEUM (978-441-0400), 491 Dutton St., Lowell. Tues.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission $5, $3 for seniors, students, and ages 6-16, free for ages 6 and under. The Museum houses the nation's largest collection of artifacts and documents relating to America's textile manufacture. Through May 27: "Textile Art from Southern Appalachia: The Quiet Work of Women."

ARMENIAN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF AMERICA (926-2562), 65 Main St., Watertown. Admission $2, free for children. Fri., Sun., Tues., 1-5 p.m.; Tues., 7-9 p.m. Ongoing: "The Armenian Genocide: In Memoriam"; "The Metal Art of Anatoli Avetian"; "Armenian Contemporary Art."

ART COMPLEX MUSEUM (781-934-6634), 189 Alden St., Duxbury. Wed.-Sun., 1-4 p.m. Free. Permanent collection features Shaker furniture, prints, American paintings, and Japanese art. Through March 4: "Trees," photos by Lance Keimig.

BOSTON BEER MUSEUM AND VISITORS' CENTER (522-9080), 30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain. Tours Thurs.-Fri. at 2 p.m.; Sat. at noon, 1, and 2 p.m. Admission $2. View two centuries of beer memorabilia and learn about the brewing process.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY (536-5400), Copley Sq., Boston. Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Art and Architecture tours offered Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat., 11 a.m.

— Wiggin Gallery (ext. 2280). Through May 27: "Proof in Print: A Community of Printmaking Studios"; Through March 30: "The Brink's Job Exhibit."

— Boston Room (ext. 2225). Through Feb. 28: calligraphy by Margaret Shepherd. Reception Feb. 15, 6 p.m.

— Deferrari Hall (ext. 2336). Through Feb. 27: "Speak Truth to Power," photos by Eddie Adams.

BOSTON TEA PARTY MUSEUM (338-1773), Congress St. Bridge, Boston. Daily, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission $8, $7 for students, $4 for children. A floating exhibit featuring a full-scale working replica of one of the ships involved in the infamous Boston Tea Party, the movie "Paul Revere Remembers," and continuous group-participation reenactments.

CAPE COD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY (800-896-3867), 869 Rte. 6A, Brewster. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Admission $4, $2 for children. The Museum runs programs, walks, classes, and field schools on its three nature trails through woodlands, salt marsh, unspoiled beach, and Cape Cod's largest herring run. Indoor exhibits represent the Cape's native surroundings, from reptiles and insects to shells, minerals, and fossils, and include both the Clarence Hay Library for natural history information and an on-site archaeology lab. Ongoing: "Secrets in the Sand: Solving the Mystery of Wing Island."

CAPE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS (508-385-4477), Cape Playhouse, Rte. 6A, Dennis Village. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Admission $5; free for ages 16 and under and on Sat. before 1 p.m. The permanent collection features works by Ross Moffett, Arthur Diehl, William Paxton, Arnold Geissbuhler, Oliver Newberry Chaffee, and Sig Purwin.

CAPTAIN FORBES HOUSE (696-1815), 215 Adams St., Milton. Tues.-Thurs., Sun., 1-4 p.m. Admission $3, $1.50 for seniors, students, and teachers, free for ages 12 and under. Through April 22: "Lincoln Collection Exhibit."

CAROUSEL STATION (925-0472), 205 Nantasket Ave. at the Wharf, Hull. Daily, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. The Station is a festival museum complex centered around a 1928 Paragon Carousel, and also includes a museum about steamboats, hotels, and trains, a gift shop, café, and visitors' center.

CHARLES RIVER MUSEUM OF INDUSTRY (781-893-5410), 154 Moody St., Waltham. Thurs., Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and by appointment. Admission $4, $2 for students and seniors. Exhibits explore the industrial revolution, technology, and innovation, including "The Textile Mill," "The Auto Plant," "The Watch Factory," "Going to Work," and "The Employment Office." Guided tours include machine demonstrations.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM (426-6500), 300 Congress St., Boston. Daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri. until 9 p.m. Admission $7, $6 for children over two and seniors, $2 for one year-olds. Admission $1 on Fri. from 5 to 9 p.m. Free parent-child activities include "Come Sing and Dance" at 11 a.m. on Wed. and Fri., "Explore and Discover Together" at 2 p.m. on Wed., and "New Balance Climb," ongoing. Current exhibits include: "Boats Afloat," featuring an 800-gallon Channel tank; "Under the Dock," a giant-scale simulated underwater landscape with a 14' fiberglass lobster; "Build It!," a mock neighborhood market in Boston; "Japanese House," a two-story house from Kyoto; and "Teen Tokyo," an exhibit about fashion, food, sports, music, and family life of Japanese youth. Through April 30: "Go Figure!"

COMMONWEALTH MUSEUM (727-9268), 220 Morrissey Blvd.; Columbia Point, Boston. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free admission. Ongoing: "Toward a Better Life: Massachusetts Workers and Their Unions."

CONCORD MUSEUM (978-369-9609), 200 Lexington Rd., Concord. Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., 1-4 p.m. Admission $10, $9 for seniors, $5 for students and children. Exhibits of furniture and decorative art objects documenting domestic life in Concord from 1635-1890. On display are Paul Revere's lantern from the Old North Church, and belongings of Emerson and Thoreau. Through June 10: "Extending the View," photos by Richard Cheek. Ongoing: "Why Concord?" a permanent exhibition of Concord's history.

DANFORTH MUSEUM OF ART (508-620-0050), 123 Union Ave., Framingham. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tues.-Thurs., 6-10 p.m. Admission $3, $2 for students and seniors, children under 12 free. Museum's collection includes American art from the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries, including a children's gallery and a permanent collection of Hopi Kachina dolls. Through April 1: "Ernest Withers: The Picture Tells the Story."

DECORDOVA MUSEUM (781-259-8355), 51 Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln. Tues.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $6, $4 for seniors, students, and children. Through May 28: "Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor." Through June 10: "Just the Thing! The Object in Contemporary Outdoor Sculpture." Ongoing: "Welcome to the House of Art: An Installation by Todd McKie"; "Abstract Expressionism/Figurative Expressionism: Common Ground."

— The 35-acre Sculpture Park is open daily 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Free. Recent additions include Roberly Bell's "Garden Project," David Berry's "Sphere IV," Chakaia Booker's "Dialogue with Myself," Elliott Offner's "Figure from the Sea," and Leslie Wilcox's "Sentry Stand."

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO (541-5466), 1 Franklin Park Rd., Boston. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission $7, $6 for seniors, $4 for ages 2-15. Home to over 150 species of mostly endangered or threatened animals including snow leopards, "African Tropical Forest," "Giraffe Savannah," and "Bongo Congo" featuring bongo antelope, zebras, ostrich, ibex, auodad sheep and vultures. Ongoing: "Farmyard Exhibit."

FULLER MUSEUM OF ART (508-588-6000), 455 Oak St., Brockton. Tues.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission $3, $2 for seniors and students, $1 for children. Permanent collection features over 4,000 pieces of 19th and 20th century American art and crafts. Through March 11: "Gravity, Biscuits, and Rolling Balls: The Inventions of Craig Bloodgood." Through March 25: "Richard Yarde: Coming and Going/ Palms."

GIBSON HOUSE MUSEUM (267-6338), 137 Beacon St., Boston. Call for hours. Built in 1859 and preserved as a legacy of the Victorian era, the Museum is open for tours Sat.-Sun at 1, 2, and 3 p.m.

HARRISON GRAY OTIS HOUSE (227-3956), 141 Cambridge St., Boston. Wed.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $4, $3.50 for seniors, $2 for children. Designed by Charles Bulfinch in 1796 and restored in the 1970's, the grand mansion provides insight into the social, business, and family life of the American elite in the New Republic. Guided Tours of the house are Wed.-Sun., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on the hour (all visitation is guided).

HERITAGE PLANTATION (508-888-3300), Pine and Grove Sts., Sandwich. Daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $9, $8 for seniors, $4.50 for ages 6-18, free for ages 5 and under. Exhibits include "Is She or Isn't He?: Identifying Gender in Folk Portraits of Children," featuring 75 children's portraits by American folk artists including Mary and Francis Wilcox, John Brewster, Jr., Ruth Henshaw Bascom, and Horace Bundy; a display of over 50 carvings by Elmer Crowell; "Artists and Uniforms: The World War II Experience," featuring drawings, prints and paintings depicting various theaters of war, and a display of uniforms and artifacts; and "Work, Play, and Stereotypes: Selections from the MacMillan Collection of Currier and Ives."

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM (508-853-6015), 100 Barber Ave., Worcester. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., noon-4 p.m. Admission $5.75, $5 for seniors, $4.75 for ages 6-16, free for ages 5 and under. Through June 3: "Romance in Steel: The Heritage of Armor." Ongoing: "Arms and Armor Around the World"; "Battle of Grandson"; "The Nightwatchman," a charcoal drawing by Norman Rockwell; "The Armorer's Craft." "Mars and the Muses."

HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES (978-744-0991), 54 Turner St., Salem. Daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $8, $6 for ages 6-17, free for ages 5 and under. The House of the Seven Gables, the inspiration for Nathaniel Hawthorne's novel, is the oldest 17th-century mansion remaining in New England. Furnishings include furniture and artifacts spanning three centuries, including Hawthorne memorabilia. The grounds also contain Hawthorne's birthplace, a 19th-century counting house, period gardens, and a visitor center with interactive video, orientation programs, and garden café. Currently on view: "Digging Up the Past: 330 Years of Salem's History at the House of the Seven Gables"; "Images of the Seven Gables: Paintings, Prints, and Photographs of Salem's Most Illuminated Home."

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART (266-5152), 955 Boylston St., Boston. Wed., Fri., noon-5 p.m.; Thurs., noon-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $6, $4 for seniors and students, free for children, free after 5 p.m.

on Thurs. Established in 1936 as the first non-collecting contemporary art institution in the U.S. Through April 1: "Olafur Eliasson: Your Only Real Thing Is Time."

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM (566-1401), 280 The Fenway, Boston. Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $10 ($11 on Sat.-Sun.), $7 for seniors, $5 for students with ID ($3 on Wed.), free for ages 18 and under. The museum, built in the style of a 15th-century Venetian palace, houses more than 2500 art objects, with emphasis on Italian Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch works. Among the highlights are works by Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and Whistler. Guided tours given Fridays at 2:30 p.m. Through April 29: "The Art of the Cross: Medieval Piety in the Gardner Museum."

JACKSON HOMESTEAD (552-7238), 527 Washington St., Newton. Mon.-Thurs., noon-5 p.m. Admission $2, $1 for children and seniors. Home of abolitionist William Jackson, includes exhibitions on Newton and regional history highlighting the community as an early railroad hub and the home itself as a stop on the Underground Railroad. Children's gallery features hands-on exhibits. Ongoing: "Building and Living in 20th Century Newton"; "What Makes Community: Sense of Place in Chestnut Hill, Oak Hill & Thompsonville"; "The Jacksons' Contribution to Newton"; "Children's Gallery & Abolition Room"; "Dolls from Around the World."

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM (929-4500), Morrissey Blvd., Columbia Point, Boston. Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $8, $6 for students and seniors, $4 for ages 13-17, free for ages 12 and under. Admission free on Mon. Exhibitions portraying the life, leadership, and legacy of President Kennedy through memorabilia, video presentations, and settings. Ongoing: "Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy"; "Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy: First Lady"; "John Glenn and the Space Race"; "The Cuban Missile Crisis"; "The Nixon v. Kennedy Presidential Race"; "The Struggle for Civil Rights"; "Mrs. Kennedy's Tour of the White House"; "The Kennedy Family;" "Jacqueline Kennedy Travels Abroad." Through April 30: "John F. Kennedy: Man of the Sea." Through Feb. 28, 2002: "Jacqueline Kennedy: The White House Years."

LONGYEAR MUSEUM (277-8943), 120 Seaver St., Brookline. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4:15 p.m.; Sun., 1-4:15 p.m. Admission $3. Museum exhibits explore the life of Christian Science founder Mary Baker Eddy through artifacts, manuscripts, books, and the biographical history of early workers in the Christian Science Church circa 1910. Located on 8 acres including flower gardens, a fountain, pool, and statues. The Museum also maintains three Massachusetts houses in which Eddy lived, at 23 Paradise Road, Swampscott (599-1853), open Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 2-5 p.m.; 277 Main St., Amesbury (277-8943), hours by appointment; and 133 Central St., Stoughton (277-8943), hours by appointment. The houses are open May 1 through Oct. 31, and admission is $2, $1 for students.

LORING-GREENOUGH HOUSE (524-3158), 12 South St., Jamaica Plain. Open for tours Sat., noon-3 p.m. Donation $3, $1 for children. A pre-Revolutionary house on the National Register of Historic Places decorated in period furnishings, costumes, and objets d'art.

MASSACHUSETTS MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART (413-664-4481), 87 Marshall St., North Adams. Tues.-Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission $6, $4 for seniors and students. $2 for ages 6-16; free for ages 5 and under. Through March 15: "Unnatural Science." Current exhibitions: "Tim Hawkinson: Uberorgan"; "Full Moon on the Hoosic," wall drawing by Mike Glier; "Ron Kuivila: Visitations."

MUSEUM OF AFRO AMERICAN HISTORY (742-1854), 46 Joy St., Boston. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Collection includes documents, artifacts, and art works pertaining to the African American experience in New England. Includes the African Meeting House, the oldest standing black church in America; and the Abeil Smith School, Boston's first public school for Black children and an early home of the Abolitionist movement.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS (267-9300), 465 Huntington Ave., Boston. Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. West Wing open Thurs.-Fri. until 9:45 p.m. Admission $12, $10 for seniors and students, free for ages 17 and under, $2 after 5 p.m. on Thurs.-Fri., free after 4 p.m. on Wed. **Mon.-Fri.:** introductory walks through all collections begin at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; "Asian, Egyptian, and Classical Walks" begin at 11:30 a.m.; "American Painting and Decorative Arts Walks" begin at 12:30 p.m.; "European Painting and Decorative Arts Walks" begin at 2:30 p.m.; Introductory tours are also offered **Sat.** at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

— Permanent Gallery Installations: "Late Gothic Gallery," featuring a restored 15th-century stained glass window from Hampton Court, 14th- and 15th-century stone, alabaster, and polychrome wood sculptures from France and the Netherlands; "Mummy Mask Gallery," a newly renovated Egyptian gallery, features primitive masks dating from as far back as 2500 B.C.; "European Decorative Arts from 1950 to the Present"; "John Singer Sargent: Studies for MFA and Boston Public Library Murals."

— Exhibitions: Through Feb. 25: "Dangerous Curves: Art of the Guitar." Tickets $16-$18. Call 423-NEXT. Through March 25: "Art and the Camera: The Photographs of F. Holland Day." Through March 18: "Boston 1900." Ongoing: "The Alan and Simone Hartman Collection of English Silver 1680-1760: The Huguenot Legacy"; "The Art of Africa, Oceana, and the Ancient Americas"; "Egyptian Funerary Arts and Ancient Near East Galleries."

— Gallery lectures are free with museum admission. **Thurs.:** at 11 a.m., "Funerary Art in the East," presented by Jennifer Kessner. **Sat.:** at noon, "The Photographs of F. Holland Day," presented by Patricia Fanning. **Sun.:** at 2 p.m. and **Wed.:** at 6 p.m., "Death and Hope in Renaissance Art," presented by Elina Gertsman. **Following Thurs.:** at 11 a.m., "Contemporary American Masters," presented by Amy Morel.

MUSEUM OF OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE (781-861-6559), 33 Marrett Rd., Lexington. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Free admission. Ongoing: "Lexington Alarm'd," an introduction to Colonial Lexington exploring the town's connection to the Revolutionary War; "Initiating America: Three Centuries of Lodge Life." Through April 22: "The Bicycle Takes Off: From Boneshaker to Boom." Ongoing: "The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden"; "Made in Massachusetts."

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE (723-2500), Science Park, Boston. Sat.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Admission $10, $7 for seniors and ages 3-11. The Museum features the theater of electricity (with indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits. Through March 4: "Powers of Nature." Ongoing: "Galileo's Odyssey," "Natural Mysteries"; "Cahners ComputerPlace"; "The Virtual Fish Tank"; "The Light House: Beaming, Bouncing, and Bending Light"; "Messages"; "Science in the Park: Playing with Forces and Motion"; "Human Body Connection."

— Admission to Omni, laser, and planetarium shows is $7.50, $5.50 for ages 3-11 and seniors. "Laser Jukebox," Fri.-Sun., 5:30 p.m.; "Laser Bizkit," Thurs.-Sat., 9:15 p.m.; "Laser Floyd," Fri.-Sat., 10:30 p.m.; "Laser Pop Rox," Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m.; "Laser Zeppelin," Sun., 8 p.m.; "Laser Aerosmith," Sun., 9:15 p.m. Ongoing: "Friday Night Stargazing," Fri., 8:30 p.m.; "Catastrophies in Space: When Stars End Their Lives" and "Welcome to the Universe," daily.

MUSEUM OF THE NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS (442-8614), 300 Walnut Ave., Roxbury. Tues.-Sun., 1-5 p.m. Ongoing: "Aspelta: A Nubian King's Burial Chamber."

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION (522-6547), Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline. Tues.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $5, $3 for seniors, students, and ages 6-16. Exhibits focus on the automobile and its role in American society. Through May 27: "Microcars: The Little Car That Could"; "From Carriages to Motorcars"; "Weld Garden, Brookline."

NAISMITH MEMORIAL BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME (413-781-6500), 1150 West Columbus Ave., Springfield. Daily, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission $8, $5 for students and seniors, children free. A 48,000 square foot, three-level museum highlighting all levels of the game, featuring a virtual-reality game, interactive video monitors, a movie theater, hoop shoot-out, and historic memorabilia. Ongoing: a tribute to the history of basketball in the Olympic games.

NEW BEDFORD WHALING MUSEUM (508-997-0046), 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford. Mon.-Wed., Fri.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thurs., 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Admission $4.50, $3.50 for seniors, $3 for children, free for ages 5 and under. Sept. 28-May 31: "A View from the Cupola: New Bedford's Changing Landscape." Ongoing: "Whalers Go West: The Lure of Gold"; "The Chronicle of the Blue Whale"; "Moby-Dick: the Men and the Voyages"; "Joshua Slocum: Alone Around the World"; "A Wind from the North: The Turn of the Last Century through the Eyes of Clifford W. Ashley."

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM (973-5200), Central Wharf, Boston. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission $13, $11 for seniors, $7 for ages 3-11, free for children under 3. More than 70 exhibits featuring aquatic animals from Boston Harbor to the Amazon River. Includes the 187,000-gallon giant ocean tank, where visitors can observe coral reef fishes, pick up a horseshoe crab, and observe regularly scheduled shark feedings.

— Ongoing exhibits: "Nyanja! Africa's Inland Sea"; "Rivers of the Americas," including animals from the Amazon and Connecticut Rivers; the ecology-oriented "Boston Harbor: the Place, the Problem, the Plan"; "Storm over Stellwagen," an interactive multimedia aquatic exhibit; "Sea Otters"; "Aquarium Medical Center," a public expansion of the aquarium's veterinary care hospital; "The *Matthew*."

— Aquarium Harbor Tours depart daily from Central Wharf at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. Tickets $9, $7 for teens, $6.50 for children.

— "Unforgettable Boston," a 20-minute interactive movie highlighting many of Boston's favorite landmarks, runs continuously Mon.-Fri. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sat.-Sun. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets $4, $3 for seniors and ages 3-11; (800) 296-7600.

NEW ENGLAND PIRATE MUSEUM (978-741-2800), 274 Derby St., Salem. Daily, 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission $4, $2.50 for children. The museum features a dock-side village, a pirate ship and 80-foot cave, and 60 life-sized pirates from yesteryear including Blackbeard and Captain Kidd. Also depicts colonial American life and New England pirates.

NORMAN ROCKWELL MUSEUM (413-298-4100), Stockbridge. Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $9, free for ages 18 and under when accompanied by an adult. The Museum houses Rockwell's studio, and the world's largest collection of his paintings. Ongoing: "My Adventures as an Illustrator."

OLD NORTH CHURCH (523-6676), 193 Salem St., Boston. Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tickets $8, $5 for ages 15 and under. Built in 1723, Boston's oldest church continues as an active Episcopal Church with services every Sunday.

OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE (482-6439), 310 Washington St., Boston. Daily, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission $3, $2.50 for students and seniors, $1 for children. A museum and historic site built in 1729 as a Puritan house of worship, the Meeting House served as the location for meetings of Colonial revolutionaries leading up to the war for independence. Ongoing: "Voices of Protest."

OLD STATE HOUSE (720-3290), 206 Washington St., Boston. Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $3, $2 for students and seniors, $1 for ages 6-18. Ongoing exhibits detail the history of Boston during the Revolution, the history of firefighting, the John Hancock family, inns and taverns, and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. Also administers a Boston reference library and photographic resource center at 15 State St. Ongoing: "A History of Boston through Fire."

ORCHARD HOUSE/HOME OF THE ALCOTTS (978-369-4118), 399 Lexington Rd., Concord. Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1-4:30 p.m. Admission $6, $5 for students and seniors, $4 for ages 6-17, free for ages 5 and under. Home of the Alcotts and the site where Louisa May Alcott wrote *Little Women* in 1868. Features personal objects and furnishings that belonged to the Alcott family, the Concord School of Philosophy, and historical programs and exhibitions. The museum offers a variety of guided "living history" tours.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE (523-2338), 19 North Sq., Boston. Tues.-Sun., 9:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Admission $2.50, $2 for students and seniors, $1 for children. Restored 17th-century house owned by Revere during the Revolutionary War. Next door is the Pierce/Hichborn House, a Georgian brick building built circa 1711.

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM (978-745-9500), East India Square, Liberty & Essex Sts., Salem. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission $10, $8 for seniors and students, free for ages 16 and under. Museum complex on two adjacent city blocks features 30 galleries, art and architecture from America, Asia, and the Pacific, historic house tours, and a research library. Through April 29: "Ebony and Ivory: Furniture from British India and Ceylon." Through March 18: "Worlds Revealed: The Dawn of Japanese and American Cultural Exchange." Through March 11: "Art with Wings: Waterfowl Art." Ongoing: "The Saltonstall Family Portraits"; "A Folk Art Sampler"; "The Real Witchcraft Papers."

— Liberty Street Building. Tours given at 2 p.m. daily. The museum features a collection of marine paintings and drawineries devoted to porcelains, lacquerware, ivory, furniture, and silver of the China Trade.

— Essex Street Building. Gardens, historic houses dating back to 1684, and a research library. Museum features silver, glass and ceramics, portraits and landscape paintings, and dolls and toys. Permanent exhibitions: "Days of Judgment," an exhibition commemorating the 300th anniversary of the Salem Witch Trials. Guided tours of the John Ward House (1684), the Georgian Crowninshield-Bentley House (1727), and the Federal Gardner-Pingree House (1804).

SALEM 1630: PIONEER VILLAGE (508-744-0991), Forest River park, off West Ave., Salem. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission $5, $3 for children. A living-history re-creation of Salem in 1630, a Puritan fishing village featuring a variety of early shelters, gardens, and animals.

SALEM MARITIME NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE (978-740-1660), 193 Derby St., Salem. Daily, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission $3, $2 for children and seniors. Features *Friendship*, a replica of the 1797 sailing vessel. West India Goods Store, trail-side exhibits, wharfs, "Rigging Shed," and ranger-guided walking tours. An orientation film, "To the Farthest Port of the Far East," is shown every half-hour, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

SPORTS MUSEUM OF NEW ENGLAND (978-452-6775), 25 Shattuck St., Lowell. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission $3, $2 for seniors and ages 6-17, free for ages 6 and under. A showcase for New England sports history through interactive exhibits, computers, videos, mini-theatres, and memorabilia. Currently on view: "Harry Agganis: Athlete, Scholar, Gentleman"; "Candlepin Bowling"; "A Salute to the 50th Anniversary of the Boston Braves"; "Ted Williams Tribute"; "Women in Sports"; "The Greater Lowell and Merrimack Valley Sports Tradition"; baseball photographs by Bill Chapman.

SPORTS MUSEUM OF NEW ENGLAND AT THE FLEETCENTER (624-1234), Causeway St. Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission $5, $4 for seniors and ages 6-17, free for ages 6 and under. A showcase for Boston sports history with exhibits dedicated to the Celtics, Bruins, Boston Garden, and the FleetCenter. Currently on view: "Ted Williams: An American Hero."

STONE PARK ZOO (781-438-5100), 149 Pond St., Stoneham. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission $6, $5 for seniors, $4 for children. Home to over nine animal exhibits including "Major," a 30-year-old polar bear, a herd of bison, a colony of flamingoes, capybaras (the world's largest rodents), and spider monkeys. Ongoing: "Snowy Owl Creek."

THE OLD MANSE (978-369-3909), 269 Monument St., Concord. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Tours $5.50, $4 for seniors and students, $3.50 for ages 6-12. Historic house where Ralph Waldo Emerson and Nathaniel Hawthorne once worked.

USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM (426-1812), Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston. Daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Ongoing: "Around the World in *Old Ironsides*," chronicling the Constitution's diplomatic mission, and "A Look Below the Waterline: Preserving Old Ironsides" which explores past and current restorations of the boat. Through March 10: "USS Constitution Model Show." Ongoing: "*Old Ironsides* in War and Peace"; "Strengthening Old Ironsides."

WADSWORTH ATHENEUM (860-278-2670), 600 Main St., Hartford, CT. Tues.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $7, $5 for seniors and students, $3 for ages 6-17, free for ages 6 and under. Collections of American and European paintings and sculpture, as well as glass, silver, Wallace Nutting furniture, and Meissen porcelain. The second floor of the Morgan Building features the J. Pierpont Morgan collection of American decorative arts. Ongoing: "We Also Served: African-Americans in the U.S. Military — Selections from the John H. Motley Collection." Through April 29: "Gauguin's 'Nirvana': Painters at Le Pouldu, 1889-1890"; "Sol LeWitt/ 'Incomplete Open Cubes'/ MATRIX 143." Through March 4: "Lithographs by James McNeill Whistler from the Collection of Steven Block." Through June 8: "Ethiopia Awakening." Through May 24: "Freeness!"

WENHAM MUSEUM (978-468-2377), 132 Main St., Wenham. Tues.-Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission $5, $4 for seniors, $3 for children. The museum houses doll and toy collections with period furnishings and costumes from as long ago as the 17th-century. Through April 29: "Home Is Where the Heart Is: Raising the Roof on Domestic Architecture and Family Life." Through Feb. 15: "Fun & Games."

WORCESTER ART MUSEUM (508-799-4406), 55 Salisbury St., Worcester. Wed.-Fri., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $8, $6 for seniors and students, free for ages 17 and under. Admission free on Sat. from 10 a.m. to noon. The museum includes an extensive collection of Asian art in its Chinese, Japanese, Indian, and Islamic galleries. Korean ceramics from the 5th and 6th centuries are on display. The Marianne E. Gibson Gallery includes works by John Singleton Copley, James Peale, Robert Fulton, and Edward Savage. Through March 25: "Chuck Close." Through April 22: "Paul Revere: Artisan and Patriot."

photography

ARTHUR GRIFFIN CENTER FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC ART (781-729-1158), 67 Shore Rd., Winchester. Tues.-Sun., noon-4 p.m. Admission $5. Through Feb. 23: "Juried Exhibition."

BOSTON UNIVERSITY Photographic Resource Center (353-0700), 602 Comm. Ave., Boston. Tues.-Sun., noon-5 p.m.; Thurs., noon-8 p.m. Tickets $3; $2 for students and seniors. Through May 17: "The Nature of Things."

BROOKLINE LUNCH (354-5287), 9 Brookline St., Cambridge. Call for hours. Through Feb. 28: group show.

FRAMINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY (508-879-3570), 49 Lexington St., Framingham. Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 2-5 p.m. Feb. 15-28: "Howard Axelrod: Endless Journey."

FRENCH LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER (266-4351), 53 Marlborough St., Boston. Tues.-Thurs., 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Through Feb. 17: "Kurt Stier: Paris."

HARVARD UNIVERSITY and RADCLIFFE COLLEGE, Cambridge.

— Harvard University Museum of Natural History (495-3045). 26 Oxford St. Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $6.50, $5 for students and seniors, $4 for ages 3-13, free for ages 2 and under and Sun. from 9 a.m. to noon. Currently on view: "Bradford Washburn: The Highest Peaks."

— Schlesinger Library (495-8647), Radcliffe College, 3 James St., Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Through April 30: "Marcus Halevi: Cambodian Women in America."

JAMES JOSEPH SALON (776-1472), 168 Newbury St., Boston. Call for hours. Ongoing: "Nightclubbing," black-and-white photographs by Lisa Arielle Allen.

MALDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY (781-324-0218), 36 Salem St., Malden. Wed.-Thurs., 2-4 p.m., 6-8 p.m. Through Feb. 28: "Embrace Taiwan."

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, Cambridge.

— List Visual Arts Center (253-4680), 20 Ames St. Tues.-Thurs., Sat.-Sun., noon-6 p.m.; Fri., noon-8 p.m. Through April 8: "Inside Space: Experiments in Redefining Rooms"; "Circa 1999: Marco Breuer Solo Exhibition." Reception Feb. 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

— Rotch Library of Architecture and Planning (258-5590), 77 Mass. Ave. Call for hours. Through April 13: "Artists Behind the Desk."

— MIT Museum (253-4444), 265 Mass. Ave. Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission $3. Ongoing: "Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Doc Edgerton."

— Compton Gallery (253-4444), 77 Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Through May 6: "Approaching Chaos: Visions from the Quantum Frontier." Through May 31: "Architecture & Space 2001." The Gallery houses Charles Lewis's color photos, which use advanced techniques such as photomacrography, photomicrography, interferometry, thermography, and light polarization.

MORSE INSTITUTE LIBRARY (508-647-6520), 14 East Central St., Natick. Mon.-Wed., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thurs., 1-9 p.m.; Fri.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through Feb. 28: photos by Christy Romanick.

NEW ENGLAND SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY Gallery One (437-1868), 537 Comm. Ave., Boston. Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Through March 16: "Calcutta." Reception Feb. 15, 7-9 p.m.

NEWTON FREE LIBRARY (552-7145), 330 Homer St., Newton Centre. Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Through Feb. 27: "Stephen Buckman: Nature's Palette."

PANOPTICON GALLERY (781-647-0100), 435 Moody St., Waltham. Call for hours. Through March 24: photos of musicians by Ernest Withers; "From the Heart."

PHILLIPS ACADEMY Addison Gallery of American Art (978-749-4015), Rte. 28 & Chapel Ave., Andover. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through March 25: "Ansel Adams and Robert Adams: Reinventing the West."

ROBERT KLEIN GALLERY (267-7997), 38 Newbury St., Boston. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Through March 10: "Night Light: Photos of Heavenly Bodies, 1885-2000."

TOSCANINI'S (492-7725), 899 Main St., Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Through Feb. 28: "Joseph Levendusky: Cityscapes in Color."

UMASS-BOSTON Harbor Art Gallery (287-7988), 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston. Mon.-Thurs., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Through March 7: "C Is for Color."

WEST ROXBURY BRANCH LIBRARY (325-3147), 1961 Centre St., West Roxbury. Mon., Thurs., noon-8 p.m.; Tues.-Wed., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fri.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Through Feb. 28: works by Marcia Webster.

schools & universities

BABSON COLLEGE Horn Gallery, (781-239-5682), Horn Library, Wellesley. Sun.-Wed., 1-5 p.m.; Thurs., 4-8 p.m. Through March 15: "Haitian Art Exhibit."

BELMONT HILL SCHOOL Landau Gallery (484-4410), 350 Prospect St., Belmont. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Through March 9: works by Pam Golden and Tali Silver.

BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY (635-6470), 174 Ipswich St., Boston. Call for hours. Through April 12: Boston Public School Teachers Exhibit.

BOSTON COLLEGE McMullen Museum (552-8100), Chestnut Hill. Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Through May 21: "Edvard Munch: Psyche, Symbol and Expression."

— Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Library (552-4470). Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Ongoing: "'Tip' O'Neill Memorial Exhibit."

BOSTON UNIVERSITY (353-3349).

—808 Gallery (358-0200), 808 Comm. Ave. Tues.-Sun., 1-5 p.m. Feb. 18-April 8: "Boston Printmakers Biennial." Reception Feb. 18, 2-4 p.m.

— Boston University Art Gallery (353-3329), 855 Comm. Ave. Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through Feb. 26: "The Crafted Image: 19th-Century Techniques in Contemporary Photography."

— Sherman Gallery (358-0295), 775 Comm. Ave. Tues.-Fri., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 1-5 p.m. Through March 2: paintings by Russell Roberts.

— Mugar Memorial Library (353-3736), 771 Comm. Ave. Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m.-midnight; Fri.-Sat., 8 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.-midnight. Through May 25: "Malcolm Boyd: An Activist in the Pulpit"; "Dan Rather: Reporter of History, Maker of History"; "Maestro: The Arthur Fiedler Collection"; "The New Knowledge: 17th Century Books on Science, Mathematics, History, Philosophy, Drama"; "Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.: In Memoriam, 1909-2000"; "In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-Nine: An Act"; "When Their Home Was the Castle: Period Photographs of the Lindsey House at 225 Bay State Road"; "Another View from the Vault."

BOWDOIN COLLEGE Museum of Art (207-725-3275), 9400 College Station, Brunswick, ME. Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 2-5 p.m. Permanent collection includes American portraiture from the eighteenth to the early twentieth century. European Art gallery, and Art and Life in the Ancient Mediterranean installation. Through March 18: "William Kentridge."

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY Rose Art Museum (781-736-3434), 415 South St., Waltham. Tues.-Sun., noon-5 p.m., Thurs. until 9 p.m. Free. Through March 25: photos by Candida Hofer; "Minimal and Conceptual Art."

— Women's Studies Research Center. Through Feb. 15: "Rita Blitt: The Passionate Gesture."

BROWN UNIVERSITY List Art Center (401-863-2932), 64 College St., Providence, RI. Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 1-4 p.m. Through March 11: "False Witness." — Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology (401-253-8388). Sat.-Sun, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Ongoing: "Tourist Art"; "Passionate Hobby: Rudolf Frederick Haffenreffer and the King Philip Museum"; "African Worlds, African Art: The William W. Brill Collection"; "Hopi Katsina Dolls: Ancestor Spirit Carvings."

EMMANUEL COLLEGE Lillian Immig Gallery (264-7611), 400 The Fenway, Boston. Mon.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Through Feb. 22: "Recollection of the Thaw," film installation by Bruce Bemis.

FRENCH-AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF BOSTON (499-1451), 45 Matignon Rd., Cambridge. Call for hours. Through March 2: "Kilometre Zero."

GORDON COLLEGE Barrington Center for the Arts (978-927-2306), 255 Grapevine Rd., Wenham. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Through Feb. 28: "Leading the Way: Visionary Asian-American Artists of the Older Generation."

HARVARD UNIVERSITY and RADCLIFFE COLLEGE, Cambridge

— Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University (524-1718), 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-4 p.m. More than 6500 species of plants in a 265-acre botanical garden designed by Frederick Law Olmsted.

— Bunting Institute (495-8212), 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 1-5 p.m. Feb. 15-March 15: "Alison Crocetta: Beyond No." Reception Feb. 15, 5-7 p.m.

— Busch-Reisinger Museum (495-9400), 32 Quincy St. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Admission $5, $4 for seniors, $3 for students, free for ages 17 and under. Free admission all day Wed. and on Sat. from 10 a.m. to noon. Tours Tues.-Fri. at 11 a.m. The decorative arts gallery includes 17th- and 18th-century British and American silver, furniture, and porcelain. The Maurice Wertheim Collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist works has reopened. Feb. 17-July 22: "Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice." Through April 22: "Sightseeing: Photography of the Middle East and its Audiences, 1840-1940."

— Houghton Library (495-2444), Harvard Yard near Mass. Ave. and Quincy St. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Ongoing: "Ucrainica at Harvard: The Ukrainian Research Institute's 25th Anniversary Exhibition."

— Harvard University Museum of Natural History (495-3045), 26 Oxford St. Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $6.50, $5 for students and seniors, $4 for ages 3-13, free for ages 2 and under and Sun. from 9 a.m. to noon. Free on Wed. from 3 to 5 p.m. The Botanical Museum features exhibits on archaeobotany, ethnobotany, paleobotany, economic botany, and orchid taxonomy. The Mineralogical and Geological Museums feature mineral and ore collections, with displays of gems and meteorites. The Museum of Comparative Zoology covers species from the earliest fossil invertebrates and reptiles to fish and reptiles alive today. Exhibitions also include whale skeletons, the largest turtle shell ever found, the Harvard mastodon, and a 42-foot-long kronosaurus, the only complete and mounted model of the sea reptile in the country. Through Jan. 20: "Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline." Through Sept. 3: "Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies." Ongoing exhibits include "The Ware Collection of Glass Models and Plants," including more than 3,000 glass flowers; "Modeling Nature," an exhibit on glass and its use as an artistic and scientific medium; "Birthstones"; "The Geology and Mineralogy of Limestone Caves"; a "Great Mammal" hall; the Romer Hall of Vertebrate Paleontology; "Encounters with the Americas," exploring pre-1492 American civilizations.

— Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology (496-1027), 11 Divinity Ave. Through Oct. 1: "Heads and Tales: Adornments from Africa." Ongoing: "Change & Continuity in North American Indian Cultures"; "Pacific Islands Art and Artifacts"; "Ju/Wasi, Bushmen of the Kalahari, Africa."

— Tozzer Library, 21 Divinity Ave. Ongoing: "The Raven and the Loon: Inuit Prints and Sculptures from the Chauncey C. Nash Collection."

— Arthur M. Sackler Museum (495-9400), 485 Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Admission $5, $4 for seniors, $3 for students, free for ages 17 and under. Free admission all day Wed. and on Sat. from 10 a.m. to noon. Docent tours Tues.-Fri. at noon. The second and fourth floors feature a permanent collection of works from Oriental, Islamic, Roman, and other ancient cultures. Also features selections from the Stuart Cary Welch collection of Islamic and Later Indian Art. Through Aug. 26: "Streams & Mountains Without End: East Asian Landscape Paintings." Through June 10: "Antoin Sevruguin and the Persian Image."

— Schlesinger Library (495-8647), Radcliffe College, 3 James St., Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Ongoing: "Betty Friedan and the Making of the Feminine Mystique: The American Left, the Cold War, and Modern Feminism"; "Women in Focus," photos from the Schlesinger Library.

— Semitic Museum (495-4631), 6 Divinity Ave. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., 1-4 p.m. Ongoing: "Nuzi and the Hurrians: Fragments from a Forgotten Past"; "Ancient Cyprus: The Cesnola Collection"; "The Pyramids and the Sphinx: 100 Years of American Archaeology at Giza."

— Sert Gallery, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts (495-3251), 24 Quincy St. Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-11:30 p.m.; Sun., noon-11:30 p.m. Through Feb. 25: "John Wesley: Love's Lust." Reception Feb. 15, 6 p.m. Through April 29: "Extreme Connoisseurship." Through Feb. 16: "Heinz Tesar: Fragments on Le Corbusier."

— Widener Library (495-2444). Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Memorial Rotunda open Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m., 11:15 a.m.-2:45 p.m., and 3:15-4:30 p.m. Ongoing: "The Incredible Ditch: A Bicentennial Celebration of the Middlesex Canal."

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART (232-1555), Boston.

— President's Gallery, Tower Building, 621 Huntington Ave., 11th Fl. Call for hours. Through March 2: "Humanizing Design: Poster Works by Luba Lukova."

— Huntington & Bakalar Galleries, 623 Huntington Ave. Call for hours. Through Feb. 23: "Wonderland."

— Student Life Gallery, Kennedy Bldg., 621 Huntington Ave., 2nd fl. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Ongoing: "Under Pressure."

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, Cambridge.

— Dean's Gallery (253-9455), 50 Memorial Dr. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Through March 14: "Katha Seidman: Lost Refuge."

— MIT Museum (253-4444), 265 Mass. Ave. Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission $3. Ongoing: "Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT"; "Holography: The Light Fantastic"; "Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson"; "MIT Hall of Hacks," chronicles of MIT's history of pranks, wit, and wizardry; "Math in 3D," sculptures by Morton G

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A national study at the Institute is focused on career advancement of women with disabilities and is funded by the National Institute On Disability, Rehabilitation and Research.

Staff from the Institute at Children's will take part in a BNN-TV program on Channel 23 on Friday, Feb. 23, at 10 p.m. devoting one hour to exploring how women with disabilities can use unique strategies to secure, maintaining and advance their careers. The program is called *Working Women with Disabilities, Working It Out Together,* one in a series of *Dead Air Live* weekly programs created by Somerville access television women producers who focus on social issues involving women.

BNN TV
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dining out

Salamander

Stan Frankenthaler's Act Two

BY ROBERT NADEAU Who would have imagined, say in 1960, that the most eagerly awaited new restaurant in Boston by 2001 would feature New England produce with a variety of Asian seasonings? With a rock soundtrack sung in foreign languages and bit of mambo? A science-fiction fan might have predicted the Abstract Expressionist sculptures, or Ray Kinoshita's room design with metal accents. But what futurist, other than the 16-year-old George Lucas, could have foreseen the collage of futuristic elements mixed with antique Japanese themes? Who could have known that our future food cravings would include retro elements like live fire and game chops, teak accents and plum-paper lamps?

But here we are at the new Salamander, and the concept is high. Maybe too high. It seems as though chef Stan Frankenthaler is running out of ideas: main courses seem to weaken, and vegetables and garnishes repeat. Or maybe he is spread too thin. He's given us a whole new "satay bar" concept — complete with a chef-in-the-middle arrangement, as at a Japanese steakhouse — but with no satay on the dining-room menu. And a five-course tasting menu ($82). And something special matched with a flight of wines for the chef's table. The new Salamander has some brilliant features, and the dessert course is an all-out rally, but there are gaps in the wine list, the garnishes, the rice, and — in admittedly the most difficult month of the year for the New England seafood industry — the fish.

Like I said, maybe the concept is too high. That's the feeling I get while nibbling on some gummy Indian bread, a heavy naan that looks like torn pita but has twice the density. The alternative is a wafer — thin as a papadum, but with a whole-wheat flavor. These are served with no butter, no olive oil, but a relish tray of curried puy lentils, salt flavored with garam masala, and a "tropical dunk" that tastes like applesauce with a hint of guava. This is all very interesting, but nothing sticks to the breads, and they aren't too great plain. The naan, at room temperature, isn't even good. Some concept is at play with Asianizing the French bread basket, but the deconstruction has passed the point of recognition.

The chef's "amuse-gueule," or complimentary appetizer, is a bit of steamed codfish with a curry sauce and some shredded noodles. Very nice, and the tasting-menu appetizer of grill-seared foie gras is better than nice. More like superfantastic. Real foie gras is a special delicacy, not to be overdecorated, but its richness pairs up well with tangy Asian glazes like this one based on Japanese plum wine. A bit of onion chutney, a couple of toasts, a double dab of Korean-style spinach — all properly played in the background of those fabulous lobes of superfatted liver.

Oxtail soup with "slippery pan-seared dumplings" ($12) was another victory — the broth deeply beefy with just a touch of anise, the dumplings providing some reference starch. Crispy-fried shell-on Maine shrimp with spicy Korean salt ($10) was all of that, but unfortunately it was so oversalted that the sweet flavor of the small local shrimp was largely lost. Pickled red chilies, used as a garnish, tasted as if they came from a jar. The jumbo shrimp atop the tasting-menu second course was good, but the underlying combination of Chinese sausage and soupy-sweet Singaporean curry canceled each other out. A serious dose of hot pepper might have helped.

The salad of mizuna greens ($12) presented a succession of parts that did not mesh. The best was "Jonathan's Peekskill Pyramid Cheese," melted onto one corner of a sesame wafer. The low points were the limp slices of Asian pear (of which the main virtue is crispness, I think), and the roasted shiitake mushrooms, which had been marinated in something unexpectedly sweet.

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Now the fish problem. At lower price levels than Salamander's, the problem is a lack of affordable wild fish. In February, the problem is often a lack of *any* wild fish. Salamander's solutions: *1)* ebony wild-salmon fillet in shishimi broth with tempura green-tea soba maki (optional third course on the tasting menu, $28 à la carte) or *2)* "Salamander's striped bass is back! Locally farmed striped bass deep-fried and served with steamed rice, choi, and green-banana curry" ($32). Comment: farmed striped bass always tastes like ashes, and so does this small whole one, although the effect is diminished by deep-frying, the crimping of the fish in a circle around the rice (real jasmine-rice aroma), and the green-banana curry. But the choi turns out to be — I guess — the same pickled red peppers I didn't like with the Maine shrimp. Wild salmon ought to have more flavor if less fat than farmed fish, but this doesn't have much, despite some kind of glaze. "Shishimi broth" is almost tasteless, despite the seaweed, wild mushrooms, and green soybeans floating around in it. "Tempura green-tea soba maki" is a five-car collision of culinary Japanese that describes a nifty fried-seaweed wrap of spaghetti, flavored with Japanese green tea, which always tastes like spinach. I think if the shishimi broth were based on clam broth or strong fish stock, this would be pretty good.

Game chops on mashed parsnips and chestnuts ($40) are very good, although they would be better if we were told what the light-colored, pork-like chops *were*. Game-farm wild boar? Antelope? Well done, not much tamarind, but some green herbal chutney I liked. The venison chop is clearly labeled and served rare. With game-farm venison, rare is safe, but it also lacks much distinctive gamy flavor. Hearty greens are braised escarole in a tomato-like sauce, and whoops, there they are on the tasting menu's fifth course of veal escalope, being three rolled-veal delights decorated with two speared Asian ravioli, stuffed with the same fine vegetable dice as the slippery pan-seared dumplings back at the oxtail soup.

Tangerine-scented duck breast ($35) is almost French, and quite good with wine. The tangerines are served as sautéed slices, and some people won't want to eat the skins. The rice served with this is enriched by a natural sauce and some duck liver as well; it's not subtle, but it's good eating.

Speaking of wine, the list is endless. It's expensive, grouped by grape, and reasonably bent toward Asian-food matches. Alsatian gewürztraminer? Five choices from $40 to $195. Riesling (another spicy white)? Nine possibilities, $34 to $88. But there's nothing at the semi-sweet spätlese level that mates so well with seafood. Pinot noir or gamay? Some from California, Beaujolais, and Burgundy, but none of my Pacific Northwest favorites. We took a good chance on the 1998 vintage for a shipper's Bourgogne rouge (Jean-Marc Millot, $55). That's a lot of mazorkas for a plain red Burgundy, and it was light but opened up, with a hint of smoke that went well with this food.

TED BAIF

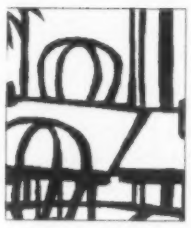
PLAY IT AGAIN: *the new Salamander has som brilliant features, but also some noticeable gaps.*

After the main battle, we were given Japanese hot towels scented with ground star anise, a lovely treat. And dessert was pure pleasure. The tasting menu brings forth a trio of mini desserts: delicious chai crème caramel ($11 alone), even better coffee frozen soufflé with chocolate nibs ($11), and one of "Chef Tim's chocolate pillows" ($12) stuffed with chocolate pudding — ahem, "very rich chocolate ganache" — and fried. Banana spring rolls ($10), with their "dueling dips" of fruit sauce and caramel sauce, and with banana bits arranged about the plate, really do top the original Salamander sweet banana-stuffed wontons. A similar deployment of pineapple bits with mint glorified the pineapple upside-down cake ($10).

Service is impeccable. The new Salamander doesn't smell like smoke, but they do plunk your wine bottle down on the table. I described the old Salamander as the world's most elegant barbecue joint. The new version is richer, sleeker, softer on the spice, and costs more; it is a lot less about earth and fire and a lot more about water and air. ■

Robert Nadeau can be reached at robtnadeau@aol.com.

dining guide



The following represent some of Greater Boston's more noteworthy restaurants, some Boston Phoenix advertisers among them. Most of these listings have been distilled from our full-length reviews. Entrée prices are rounded to the nearest dollar. The symbol ***BR*** *indicates that a restaurant serves brunch, and is followed by brunch hours. Restaurant hours, credit-card policy, and liquor information are not included, so be sure to call ahead.*

ILLUSTRATIONS BY SHANNON PALMER

BOSTON

ALLSTON/BRIGHTON

LUESTONE BISTRO, 1799 Comm Ave, righton, 254-8309. $7-$13. Pick your own izza ingredients (peppers, mushrooms, rosciutto, *walnuts*?), or split a salad and one f the eclectic pasta dishes. The room is small, uzzing, and pretty stylish for Brighton; there's eer on tap, but no bar. Live music on Thurs. nd Fri. nights. **BR** Sat. and Sun., 10 a.m. to 2 .m.

CARLO'S CUCINA ITALIANA, 131 Brighton Avenue, Brighton, (617) 254-9759. $8-$15. Rising out of "On The Cheap" prices but not osing its pasta-loving soul, Carlo's is best on red sauce, homemade pasta specials, and an unhurried lunch — still a bargain in any language. At dinner, hit the portobello mushroom, dishes with people's names (especially ones with pasta and red sauce), and remember to gesture with your hands a lot. Crowded and informal, but the opposite of grunge.

COMMON GROUND, 85 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-2071. $5-$12. To go with a good pint of Guinness and nightly music, the kitchen at this Irish-themed bar turns out pub food from burgers to gourmet pizzas — not to mention a mean plate of sweet-potato fries.

NORTH EAST BREWING CO., 1314 Comm Ave, Allston, 566-6699. $6-$18. At last, a brewpub with both solid ales — even the light ones are clean-tasting — and delectable food. Especially the Nor'Easter Pale Ale, the greens salad, and the tall-foodiest, most postmodern chocolate ecstasy that ever was. Dark, so wear what you like. **BR** Sun., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with live jazz.

RANGOLI, 129 Brighton Ave., Allston, 562-0200. $5-$13. Something new to this area — South Indian food (generally spicier, more fried, and more vegetarian than the more familiar North Indian dishes). The dishes are so individualistically flavored that it's like Indian cuisine in Technicolor. Especially the crunchy-sweet samosa-bhel, the satisfying pav bhaji, masala dosa, and idli-sambhar. You can also fall back on the familiar tandoori dishes, vindaloo, chaat, and such.

TASCA, 1612 Comm Ave, 730-8002. $10-$15. Our advice is to stick to tapas (bar snacks) in what looks more like a sit-down dining room than the kind of loud tapas bar Spaniards call a tasca. Good Spanish wine list, so have a fino and some fried calamares, and enjoy.

WONDER BAR, 186 Harvard Avenue, Allston (617) 351-2665. $6-$9. The echt-Allston crowd may never love this outpost of Newbury Street polish, but it's their loss — the former Bunratty's is now a civilized (and cheap) place for a drink and a bite. The food's good (mostly sandwiches and small dinners baked in terra-cotta pots), there's plenty of beer on tap (even though everyone around you is drinking martinis), and there's jazz at night. Warning: you won't get past the doorman in sneakers.

BACK BAY

ANGELO'S RISTORANTE, 575 Boylston St. (Copley Square), Boston, 536-4045. $17-$30. Vaulting right to the top of the Italian pile in the Back Bay, the smallish and dressy Angelo's skips the old clichés of red-sauce pasta and light Northern Italian cooking for a clean, muscular style that embraces both grilled meats and rich sauces. Try roasted portobello mushrooms over arugula, lobster bisque, and any of the grilled meats.

ARMANI CAFÉ, 214 Newbury St., Boston, 437-0909. $13-$28 (lunch, $7-$15). Elegant room, if you ignore the standing joke of waiters in black pants, black shoes, and black T-shirts. Pretty good northern Italian food — especially the authentic risottos and the long list of desserts. You will, of course, want to dress up.

AUJOURD'HUI, 200 Boylston St. (Four Seasons Hotel), Boston, 451-1392. $32-$44. Prix fixe tasting menus $52 (vegetarian) and $70. Elegant food in an elegant setting with impeccable service — and a view rivaled only by that of the Ritz. Many consider this to be Boston's most romantic dining room, although the food may strike some as a little staid. **BR** Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

BAJA MEXICAN CANTINA, 111 Dartmouth St., Boston, 262-7575. $6-$12. Serves California Mexican food rather than "authentic" Mexican, but does so with spirit and skill. Most authentic Mexican restaurants, after all, don't have Baja's wonderful "ultimate chocolate cake," or its grilled salmon quesadilla, or a heavenly roasted garlic memela (close your eyes — it's pizza). **BR** Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BANGKOK BLUE, 651 Boylston St., Boston, 266-1010. $8-$20. Very good all-around Thai restaurant, with lovely paintings in a duplex space, and often easier to get into than Back Bay neighbors offering half the flavor at three times the price. Good with coconut milk and seafood and dumplings, especially golden triangles, rendang (an Indonesian coconut stew), choo chee fisherman, and a rare Asian dessert that works: Thai custard.

BLUE CAT CAFÉ, 94 Mass Ave, Boston, (617) 247-9922. $9-$17. The latest "restaurant concept" to rotate into this roomy bar-restaurant space (ex–Café Mojo, ex-575) has a jazz motif and the most upscale turntable stand we've ever seen. The action seems to be mostly in the bar, but there's something to be said for eating at the all-booth restaurant, especially if you order the wasabi tuna salad, muffuletta sandwich, or "Southwest style" hanger steak.

BOMBAY CAFÉ, 175 Mass Ave, Boston, 247-0555. $8-$16. A storefront with a good, standard menu, somewhat richer in seafood and fried foods than many, and with enough non-spicy dishes to satisfy parents from Iowa. Anything made with chicken tikka will be good, as will shrimp samosas, stuffed nan, mint paratha, and tandoori shrimp.

BRISTOL LOUNGE, Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston Street, Boston, (617) 338-4400. $13-$32. The ground-floor restaurant at the Four Seasons isn't cheap, but it's swanky and quiet and a lot more affordable than Aujourd'hui upstairs — and you get that same gratifyingly slavish Four Seasons service. The lush $14 hamburger is famous for a very good reason, and the fries should be in a textbook. **BR** Sat. and Sun., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

THE CAPITAL GRILLE, 359 Newbury St., Boston, 262-8900. $17-$35. An upscale steakhouse with aged steaks almost as good as Morton's in a tonier atmosphere. Overpriced wines and underpriced desserts. Stick to the protein (great swordfish, too) and salads, maybe the potatoes.

CHANTERELLE, 226 Newbury St., Boston, 262-8988. $15-$19. Ambiance is the story at this cuddly Upper Newbury date spot. Outstanding service and properly executed, if conventional, French fare make this more a place for an anniversary than for a culinary adventure.

COTTONWOOD CAFÉ, 222 Berkeley St., Boston, 247-2225. $14-$25 (lunch, $5-$8). Likable, stylish, inauthentic, popular Santa Fe bar with nouvelle NuMex food. Good salads and desserts, fun fusions like "cowboy pot stickers," Rocky Mountain lamb, Norma's Zuni roll. **BR** Sat. and Sun., 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

GRILL 23 AND BAR, 161 Berkeley St., Boston, 542-2255. $22-$36. Heaven for cigar-lovers and carnivores, but fans of general good-food-beyond-steak will find happiness here, too. A handsome, impressive room, (and a new second floor) with a sense of Old World luxury.

MORTON'S, 1 Exeter Plaza (Boylston at Exeter), Boston, 266-5858. $20-$33. A modern reconstruction of a Chicago steakhouse. One can smoke a cigar without objections (even from us: the ventilation is excellent). Withal, a custom-aged porterhouse steak of unimaginable flavor and tenderness.

THE OTHER SIDE COSMIC CAFÉ, 407 Newbury St. Ext., Boston, 536-9477. $3-$6. Bohemian café with cheap West Coast sandwiches (on terrific breads) and fresh juices, including "a dose of wheatgrass juice." Seattle soundtrack.

PARISH CAFÉ, 361 Boylston St., Boston, 247-4777. $9-$17. A bar with sandwiches named after celebrities who can actually cook. Chefs, in fact. Boston's celebrity chefs designed some nifty sandwiches and salads, and a young staff makes them with top-shelf ingredients. And serves them with some interesting American wines and world beers. A conversation-maker for people interested in food.

PIGNOLI, 79 Park Plaza, Boston, 338-7500. $24-$33. Second restaurant by Lydia Shire, of Biba, less expensive and more focused on Italian foods. The main strategy seems to be unusual morsels. The breadbasket and pesto are glorious, and there are many excellent moments, especially in the starch departments. Attracts a younger, hipper crowd than the nationally famous Biba.

SALAMANDER, One Huntington Avenue (Trinity Place), Boston Back Bay, (617) 451-2150. $28-$42. If the old Salamander was the world's most elegant barbecue joint, the new one is richer, sleeker, less about earth and fire and more about water and air. Grilled meats are still grand, and desserts are better than ever. If Ray Kinoshita's rooms of space-age metal sculpture and Japanese antique motifs sometimes overwhelm mere food, they do set off your wildest jewelry well.

THAI BASIL, 132 Newbury St., Boston, 424-8424. $8-$16 (lunch, $6-$8). Underground but elegant effort to sell a consistent Thai menu in the Back Bay. Excellent porpia tod (spring rolls), and quality across the board, from the tamarind duck to the pretty-darn-hot "choo chee fisherman."

29 NEWBURY, 29 Newbury St., Boston, 536-0290. $10-$28. New American cuisine served in the kind of low-key but elegant atmosphere you'd expect on lower Newbury Street. Works by local artists hang on the walls; an outdoor café in the warm weather makes for ideal people-watching. **BR** Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

TYPHOON, 725 Boylston Street, Boston, Back Bay, (617) 859-8181. $5-$25. Too many cuisines at a useful range of prices. We think the Vietnamese food is the core of the menu, but some Hong Kong seafood dishes are well made, and the sushi is entirely acceptable. How you fuse is up to you, but you could start with Spicy Shrimp Soup, Ruby Scallops, a Classic Cantonese Steamed Sea Bass, or a cheap vermicelli plate. Dodge the obvious Chinese tourist food, though.

BEACON HILL

ARTU, 89 Charles St., Boston, 227-9023. $9-$23. A stylish, low-key trattoria and roastery with two locations. The Charles Street storefront is the place if you're in the mood for a terrific lamb sandwich, or if one of the nightly specials looks good. The original North End branch is a better spot for a full Italian dinner (longer menu; prices a dollar lower). At both, the food is affordable and consistently flavorful.

ISTANBUL CAFÉ, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston, 227-3434. $3-$16. Tip-top Turkish food in a pleasantly Bohemian semi-basement on the back side of Beacon Hill. Fine appetizers like the fried sigara boreks, a really tasty vegetarian stuffed eggplant, terrific lamb kebab, and better, spicier adana kebab, swell Turkish coffee.

CHINATOWN

BLUE DINER, 150 Kneeland St. (South Station), 695-0087. $4-$13. Not quite a diner, not even very blue, this is still the best place to go for a serious meal at 3 a.m. The all-night hours, the barbecue menu, and the cool bar in back called the Art Zone draw everyone from cops to clubbers.

CHAU CHOW CITY, 52 Beach, Boston, 426-6266. $6-$16. A vast, somewhat glitzy room at the top of the solid pyramid of Chau Chow seafood restaurants. The new palace is a little more expensive, has a little better service, and opened up with a somewhat conservative dinner menu, though still featuring authentic Swatowese seafood dishes such as clams in black-bean sauce, lobster or crab with ginger and scallion, and spicy fried calamari. Daily dim sum is for the more adventurous.

EAST OCEAN CITY, 25–29 Beach St., Boston, 542-2504, 542-4223. $4-$20. Handsomely decorated Cantonese-Hong Kong restaurant that actually nets a fish from the dining-room tank for your steamed fish. You can taste the difference. Good house special soup, clams in black-bean sauce, king tou spares, and chow foon as well. Late hours, full liquor license. Dress up a little.

GRAND CHAU CHOW, 41-45 Beach St., Boston, 292-5166. $4-$22. A fancier supplement to the popular Chau Chow Seafood Restaurant across the street, with good versions of every imaginable Chinese dish, but concentrating on Cantonese-style seafood and specialties of the Chau Chow people from Swatow and Southeast Asia. Notice the Swatowese dumpling soup, vinegar dips, grey sole with fried fins and bones, sautéed pea tendrils, and a surprising General Gau's chicken.

IMPERIAL SEAFOOD RESTAURANT, 70 Beach St., Boston, 426-8543. $6-$27. The downstairs of the famous dim sum restaurant, full of big round tables for large groups on medium-celebratory occasions. The best of an overly inclusive menu are the ambitious Cantonese classics: steamed fish; lobster Chinese style; Imperial egg roll; roast duck; clams in black-bean sauce. Lavishly redecorated with live fish and lobster tanks, without losing the rococo, kitschy sense of the thing. **BR** Dim sum daily, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

NEW SHANGHAI RESTAURANT, 21 Hudson St., Boston, 338-6688. $8-$17. Chinatown's venerable Szechuan palace refurbished and refocused on Shanghai cold appetizers and soy-based stews. Five-spice beef and duck, crispy scallops with black-pepper sauce, steamed prawns with garlic, whole fish with braised bean curd — a consistently fine meal handsomely served. You could dress up for this. **BR** Dim sum on Sat. and Sun., 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

PEACH FARM RESTAURANT, 4 Tyler Street, Boston, Chinatown, 617-482-3332. $4-$34. One of the smaller live-tank seafood restaurants in Chinatown, Peach Farm takes advantage by getting everything to the table really fast. Steamed fish and fried anything really benefit, but don't miss the braised chicken hot pot, perhaps the tastiest chicken dish in Boston.

PEKING CUISINE, 10 Tyler St., Boston, 542-5857. $3-$9. Formerly known as China Grove, this family-style restaurant continues in the Mandarin and Szechuan tradition of its predecessor. Serves both standard Chinese fare as well as more adventuresome dishes like scallops with black-pepper sauce and sautéed eel with yellow leeks. **BR** Dim sum on Sat. and Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

PEOPLE'S CAFETERIA, 21–23 Edinboro St., Boston, 482-7328. $4-$11. Not a real cafeteria, but fewer frills and lower prices than most of the current wave in Chinatown. You could make this your personal chow foon palace, but I'd also feast on lobster in ginger and scallion, clams in black-bean sauce, and salt-and-pepper squid.

COPLEY/PRUDENTIAL

BRASSERIE JO, 120 Huntington Avenue (Colonnade Hotel), Boston, 425-3240. $9-$27. Traditional Parisian bistro flavors with some hearty Alsatian dishes. A clone of a second restaurant by Chicago's Alsatian chef Jean Joho, this is a remarkably useful restaurant for the Colonnade Hotel, the Symphony-Prudential area, and anyone who happens by for breakfast, lunch, dinner, drinks, or a late graze. Unusually for the '90s, the big flavors are in the entrées, such as choucroute garni, coq au vin, and duckling à l'orange, with important cabbage and potato statements on the side. **BR** Sat. and Sun., noon to 4 p.m.

DIXIE KITCHEN, 182 Mass Ave, Boston, 536-3068. $8-$12. Genuine Cajun flavor and tone, even if not every recipe is strictly authentic, with the good-time languor of the Big Easy. Mustn't miss the gumbo ya-ya, jambalaya, fried crawfish, and the fine, fine list of pies. Some less specifically New Orleans items are only average.

MARCHÉ MÖVENPICK, 800 Boylston Street (Pru mall), Boston, (617) 578-9700. $5-$18. Yikes! If Epcot Center were reincarnated as a restaurant, it might resemble this giant outpost of Swiss megachain Mövenpick. You move among themed food stations with a cafeteria tray, then pick a themed room to eat in. This is more about entertainment (and waiting) than great cooking, so go for the simple things — fresh oysters, fruit smoothies — and the fun, hard-to-find dishes like Swiss sausage and rösti potatoes.

DORCHESTER/MATTAPAN

GALVIN'S HARP AND BARD, 1099 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, 265-2893. $5-$11. Irish bar with quality meat and potatoes, fried fish, homemade soups, and fine Grape-Nut custard at prices that you can fit in a draft Bass or Harp. Over the TV, a ticker prints the odds on sporting events.

PIT STOP BARBECUE, 888A Morton St., Dorchester, 436-0485. $4-$16. A tiny building and two-table restaurant built around an exposed brick oven. Basically a take-out, and what you want are the exquisite pork ribs, slowly defatted and perfectly balanced between smoky and spicy. The rest is hit or miss. Late hours Thursday through Sunday.

DOWNTOWN/WATERFRONT

AURA, One Seaport Lane (Seaport Hotel), Boston Waterfront, (617) 385-4300. $19-$32. Chef Ed Doyle's food can be handsome, but at these prices, you have a right to expect a perfection that the flavors don't always deliver. And Aura's hotel-lobby setup is clearly more oriented toward conventioneers than natives. Desserts, however, are consistently originally and gorgeous.

ECLIPSE, 42 Province St., Second Floor, Boston, (617) 426-3333. - A popular business lunch spot trying to revive the downtown dining scene, Eclipse goes off in several food directions. I'd follow the path of upscaled comfort food, pursuing crab cakes, firebrick chicken, the lobster club sandwich, or veal meatloaf, but save room for cranberry combread pudding at dessert.

FAJITAS & 'RITAS, 25 West St., Boston, 426-1222. $8-$12. Lively, casual Tex-Mex restaurant and margarita bar. Décor is provided mostly by the customers, who cover the walls with crayon graffiti.

HIBERNIA, 25 Kingston Street (Downtown Crossing), Boston, (617) 292-2333. $12-$18. The Irish theme is so subtle you could miss it at this hip, narrow nightclub/restaurant next to J.J. Foley's. The kitchen, when we visited, had a split personality: the attempts at fusion felt ham-handed, but modified classics were graceful and tasty: beautiful purple-potato salad with smoked-trout pâte, sweet-crusted grilled chicken, and a towering "berry surprise" for dessert. Music and dancing starts at 10 p.m. nightly.

MAISON ROBERT, 45 School St., Boston, 227-3370. $17-$32. Traditional French cuisine with a few contemporary touches. Large portions. This is actually two restaurants in one — a formal dining room upstairs (jacket and tie required) with entrées starting at $17, and a more relaxed and romantic café downstairs.

IL PANINO BISTRO, 295 Franklin St., Boston, 338-1000. $12-$24. A bustling, very moderately priced alternative to the fancy dining room upstairs. The food is simple and low in fat, yet based on superflavorful ingredients. Don't miss anything with arugula, fresh basil, or the other great Italian flavorings.

SILVERTONE, 69 Bromfield St., Boston, (617) 338-7887. $6-$12. This sleek underground bar on funky old Bromfield Street gets kinda packed after work, but the menu is worth a look if you can score a table: cheap, good, no-nonsense takes on homestyle food like meat loaf and steak tips. Also a nice stop for lunch. The wine list is short and gratifyingly uninflated.

THE VAULT, 105 Water St., Boston, 292-9966. $18-$32. Linen tablecloths, funky details, a grand bar, and a wine theme make this a fun and atmospheric downtown destination, even if the inventive cuisine of the opening chef has been replaced by more conventional upscale menu.

WEST STREET GRILLE, 15 West St. (off Tremont St., near Downtown Crossing), Boston, 423-0300. $15-$25 (lunch, $8-$9). Known primarily for its bar scene, this is a credible restaurant as well. The cooking is roughly New American; the building is tall, narrow, and multistoried; and the dining room, upstairs from the after-work bustle, is surprisingly calm.

EAST BOSTON

SANTARPIO'S, 111 Chelsea St., East Boston, 567-9871. $3-$11. One of the classic Boston pizzas, thin crust toasted to a marvelous crisp. And a font of wood-fired, East Boston "barbecue" items — skewers of lamb or sausage served simply with peasant bread and a hot cherry tomato. And that's all there is in a neighborhood bar with a core of boxing fans. Don't knock Boom-Boom Mancini or Vinnie Paz' in here.

THE FENWAY

BANGKOK CITY RESTAURANT, 167 Mass Ave, Boston, 266-8884. $7-$14 (lunch, $5-$6). The fourth Thai restaurant within blocks of Symphony Hall, but the nearest to Berklee, with a fine list of vegetarian items, including fooled-me spring rolls. Elegant, uncrowded, and the food is beautifully presented. Omnivores go for shrimp mermaid, garlic fish, and beef jungle.

SORENTO'S ITALIAN GOURMET, 86 Peterborough St., Boston, 424-7070. $8.50-$19 A (somewhat yuppie) neighborhood pizza parlor with food better than most "northern Italian" cafés. The secret: a short list of top ingredients worked into al dente pastas, delectable calzones and pizzas, and a couple of creamy sauces. **BR** Sat. and Sun., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

STARS ON HUNTINGTON, 393 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-536-3232. $8-$18. A very '50s/'90s design with both diner food and surprisingly good bistro food, attracting an equally bipolar crowd of 20-something/50-somethings, Symphony-goers and young couples. Dress up, dress down, watch football on big flat screens or feel cool and postmodern in the windows. The best food was expensive entrees of steak and swordfish.

WOODY'S GRILL & TAP, 58 Hemenway St., Boston, 375-9663. $6-$12. A wood-burning oven turns out pretty tasty pizza in the middle of a college neighborhood. Try combos like clam and bacon, sausage and goat cheese, or "Greek" (feta, black olives, and arugula). It's all pretty cheap, too.

JAMAICA PLAIN

JAMES'S GATE, 5-11 McBride St., Jamaica Plain, 983-2000. $6-$20. Joining Matt Murphy's on the short list of Boston's Irish bars with great food, James's Gate treats a mixed-age, informal crowd to updated Irish pub classics (like shepherd's pie) and truly impressive contemporary cuisine. Don't miss the steamed mussels or the "veggie quesadilla," which involves caramelized shallots, spinach, and goat cheese. **BR** Sun., noon to 3 p.m.

JP SEAFOOD CAFÉ, 730 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, 983-5177. $10-$24 (lunch, $7-$9) A neighborhood sushi bar and Korean-Japanese restaurant that started out as part of an established fish store, so you know everything will be terrific. And it is, especially dumplings, scallion pancakes, stir-fries loaded with vegetables, teriyaki and tempura, and an excellent bibimbop. And did I mention top-quality sushi?

EL ORIENTAL, 416 Centre St. (Hyde Sq.), Jamaica Plain, 524-6464. $5-$11. The orient in question is Eastern Cuba, inspiring amazing soups, Cubano sandwiches, and red-beans-and-rice to rank with any. Fierce chocolate batido, too. A neat little luncheonette to help us forget the loss of the Española across the street.

SEVEN ONE ONE GRILL, 711 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, (617) 522-1217 or (617) 522-1221. $7-$14.

A neighborhood jewel worth a pilgrimage from elsewhere for some unusual dishes, our picks being the fried spring rolls, coconut chicken laced with galangal, and fried bananas a la mode.

TACOS EL CHARRO, 349 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, 524-3435. $2-$12. Mexican food served with an authentically large quantity of beans, rice, starch... check out the spicy shrimp, tripe soup, and soulful burritos and tacos. Walls covered with mariachi photos.

NORTH END

ALLORO, 351 Hanover St., Boston, 523-9268. $12-$25. Simple, inspired dishes, in a tiny storefront restaurant. No frills — just intensely personal service and truly outstanding food. Cash only. Menu changes daily.

ARTU, 6 Prince St., Boston, 742-4336. $7-$14. Stylish, inexpensive trattoria and roastery. See listing under Beacon Hill.

CAFE RAVELLO, Cafe Ravello: 48-50 Salem Street (corner Cross Street), Boston North End, (617) 723-5182. $13-$22. Best use yet for this airy second-floor space with a view, unfortunately still a view of the expressway more than the downtown skyline. Some north Italian food done well, such as the appetizer of grilled shrimp with white beans, but a really good tomato sauce is the basis for several successes. No desserts.

MAMMA MARIA, 3 North Sq., Boston, 523-0077. $18-$32. Multileveled, candlelit spot with pink tablecloths and fresh flowers on the tables. Seasonal menu, with an emphasis on the innovative.

MONICA'S, 143 Richmond Street, Boston, North End, (617) 227-0311. $12-$20. A larger space for this Argentine-Italian family-owned restaurant featuring very nice antipasti and grilled vegetables, homemade pastas, and excellent wines. The food is up to date, but the spirit is something more like the old red-sauce North End.

RESTAURANT POMODORO, 319 Hanover St., Boston, 367-4348. $14-$17. A few-frills storefront offering savory, almost overwhelming platters. The action is in the daily specials, but watch for the red meat, risotto with lamb sausage, anything with fritters, and the roast-vegetable salad. They take reservations but use the nearby cafés when tables aren't ready. No desserts, so it's back to the cafés.

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noshing

GABRIEL SOLOMON

Clementines

Oh my darlings . . .

Within the fruit genre, oranges always seem like the problematic, tempestuous sibling. Only sometimes sweet, always a struggle to peel, and forever leaving pesky dribbles in their wake, they raise the question "Why bother?" Especially when Fuji apples, Florida grapefruits, and California kiwis are to be had.

But as each winter steamrolls us, there is one saving grace amid the wet clothes and clenched shoulders: clementines. It's hard to believe that these tidy, always sweet, fist-size, tangerine-like fruits are even related to the high-maintenance orange. But they are. Packed in five-pound crates to promote healthful snacking, these favored citruses from Spain provide not only a punch of vitamins C and A to combat winter colds, but also bite-size pieces perfect for popping in your mouth as a quick, easy treat. It's rare that craving coincides with health benefits, so we're making the most of the last month of this fruit's peak, and snatching up as many of those wooden mini-crates as possible.

— Nina Willdorf

uncorked

The wizard

A visit with wine guru Oz Clarke

BY DAVID MARGLIN The seminal event of Boston's "wine season," which kicks off in late January, is the Wine Expo, and this year some 16,000 attendees each day struggled through the snow to the World Trade Center on January 20 and 21. The annual event remains our nation's largest consumer wine event, and it is always a rewarding experience for wine lovers.

The Expo's hidden treasures are the seminars, which range in price from $25 to $90. Even for pros, seminars are a great way to learn about wine. You focus, you compare, you learn from someone knowledgeable (often a panel including winemakers, critics, etc.), and you drink great wines with people who really care. This year, I was lucky enough to attend probably the best wine seminar I have ever been to, given by prestigious keynote speaker Oz Clarke.

Oz is a wine star, and his light shines bright (right up there in the heavens with last year's keynote speaker, *Oxford Guide to Wine* author Jancis Robinson). My favorite wine writer, he is the renowned author of such books as *Oz Clarke's New Encyclopedia of Wine*, *New Classic Wines*, *Oz Clarke's Essential Wine Book* (a must for beginners), and the perennial *Pocket Wine Guide*. He also hosts a well-received BBC program called *Food & Drink*, making him one of the more influential wine experts in England. Educated at Oxford, where he began his wine-writing career, Oz is also a thespian, and the most engaging wine person I've had the pleasure to meet (during our interview he serenaded me with a rousing rendition of "Danny Boy"). I loved walking around the main exhibition hall, tasting and spitting hundreds of wines from the 450-plus wineries; but the experience of sitting down with Oz and 30 or so wine devotees and comparing New World (Australian, Argentinean, American, South African, New Zealander) and Old World (French) expressions of various grapes (sauvignon blanc, merlot, pinot noir, chenin blanc, and chardonnay) side by side as the Expo shut down for the day was as enjoyable and rewarding as any Expo gets — ever.

Our seminar was titled "A New Wine Universe." The first question was, "What does *that* mean?" You knew it was going to be an interesting presentation when Oz cracked a wry smile and said, "Well, I really haven't a clue."

But he did have a clue, of course. He is very opinionated and full of all sorts of useful tidbits of knowledge. In discussing the leading Spanish vine variety, tempranillo (which is the main grape in Riojas and Ribera del Ducros), he noted that people around the world have gone mad for Spanish wines (since they are interesting and represent incredible values), and growers in New World countries have recently begun experimenting with this grape. Tempranillo plantings in Australia, for example, have increased 1500 percent over the past few years.

As far as Clarke is concerned, the Bordeaux, Burgundies, and Rhône wines favored by collectors have "run their course." They are "mainstream throughout the world," and therefore less interesting (and not as good a value for the money). But there are exceptions, meaning that one cannot ignore the Old World wines altogether, since Old World economics have been giving way to new ways of making wine. In regions such as Spain, Italy, and the Languedoc, drab, mediocre, and predictable wines are being replaced by more exciting vintages, thanks to lower yields in the vineyards and increased knowledge and experience on the part of winemakers.

Yet, says Oz, New World wines are generally more adventurous than their European counterparts; they offer a plethora of new or less-well-known grapes, and relatively low brand recognition results in correspondingly better, more interesting, and more engaging wines for the dollar. In Chile, Argentina, the United States, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand, winemakers are exploring, creating, and thriving. While this is good news for consumers, Oz laments that too often Old World economics are forcing New World winemakers to make wines that reach peak drinkability too soon, so that they can be moved through the system. But this problem is less debilitating, in Oz's opinion, than complacency, which is the wine world's greatest enemy, especially among producers.

What excites Oz is that we live in such interesting times. "The wine world," he notes, "has never been wider open or more interesting, and your children may be drinking altogether different wines than you are." Oz believes that in his native England, the buying power of major supermarkets (where most wine is sold) has democratized the industry, and is combating the snobbery perpetuated by so many wine writers, who for decades have played upon people's fears and insecurities as a way of establishing and preserving their own power. Because the supermarkets buy large volumes of wine directly from wineries, they can offer relatively low prices, good selections, and value, without lots of pretense. As to what to buy, Oz particularly likes certain producers and regions (in the United States, Pepperwood Grove and Fetzer are favorites at their price points), although he laments the fact that premium-wine producers (who make those $7 to $10 bottles) make such boring, cookie-cutter wines, which do nothing to educate us wine-drinking folk.

When asked to name the most exciting wines in the world at this moment, Oz went out of his way to mention Chile for its merlots, cabernets, and carmenères; and Argentina, where malbec, bonarda, and torrontés (a delicious indigenous white variety) are the cutting-edge grapes — the new wonders.

My next column will feature some of these cutting-edge Argentine wines. You may want to go out and explore some in their 1999 vintages (1998 was an off year), including Ben Marcos, Susana Balbo, and Bodega Lurton. ■

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Read back Uncorked columns on the Web at http://www.bostonphoenix.com/

dining guide

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No problem.

TERRAMIA, 98 Salem St., Boston, 523-3112. $9-$24. A tiny spot with beamed ceiling, terracotta floor, and stucco walls. Comforting but creative Italian cuisine — inventive but not wild. Impeccable seafood, especially the swordfish dishes, which are like air.

SOUTH END

ANCHOVIES, 433 Columbus Ave., Boston, 266-5088. $5-$10. A lively neighborhood bar whipping up pizzas, calzones, and fresh pasta. Terrific value — when you can find a booth.

CLAREMONT CAFÉ, 535 Columbus Ave., Boston, 247-9001. $14-$22 (lunch, $6-$10). A fresh café that suits the South End, with informal service and a touch of bohemia in the decor. The food is serious enough to suit anyone, with fine soups, unusual salads, deliciously garnished entrées, and knockout desserts. **BR** Sat., 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sun., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

THE DELUX CAFÉ & LOUNGE, 100 Chandler St., Boston, 338-5258. $5-$10 The perfect, five-star, not-a-false-note postmodern café-bar for people in their 20s. Deceptively simple great food and openhearted, sincere cool make this a great visit for anyone else. Wall art and music superbly evoke the '50s–'90s connection.

GEOFFREY'S CAFÉ-BAR, 578 Tremont St., Boston, 266-1122. $6-$16. A lovely, Parisian re-take on the former space of Hamersley's Bistro, with reliable bistro food at most un-Parisian prices. A younger South End bohemian crowd has noticed, and they can eat remarkably well if they stick to the spicy grilled shrimp, pastas, Brazilian steak sandwich, beef bourguignon, and large desserts.

GRILLFISH, 162 Columbus Ave., Boston, 357-1620. $8-$21. Not hard to guess what you want to order. Grilled fish of many species are excellent, with very complementary sauces. Fried calamari are neither grilled nor fish, but they are great, too. Loud bar/dating atmosphere, but the informality and friendly staff make everyone comfortable.

ICARUS, 3 Appleton St., Boston, 426-1790. $21-$30. A longtime favorite that's held its own. American ingredients with flair in a romantic, festive environment. Try the polenta with wild mushrooms, grilled shrimp with mango-jalapeño sorbet, and venison with juniper, black pepper, and cranberries. Great comfort food, elegantly prepared.

MING'S CAFÉ, 160 East Berkeley St., Boston, 338-8830. $6-$9. One of the cheapest Cantonese restaurants in outer Chinatown, and paradoxically one of the best. And it has its own parking. Closes in mid-evening, though, so come early.

ON THE PARK, 1 Union Park, Boston, 426-0862. $15-$20. A cut-rate (like halfsies) version of the stylish restaurants a few blocks away. You can eat pretty well with careful attention to the blackboard specials and quasi-French country dishes like confit of duck leg, terrine of vegetables, and vegetarian cassoulet. **BR** Sat., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sun., 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

THAI VILLAGE, 592 Tremont St., Boston, 536-6548. $8-$14 (lunch, $5-$6). Small, high-quality Thai room contests South End's restaurant row with plenty of spice and some innovative dishes like fried sweet-potato sticks, mussel pancakes, and excellent seafood salad. Solid standards (coconut chicken soup, hot-and-sour soup, pad Thai), though the curries are a lot alike.

THEATER DISTRICT

MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S, 34 Columbus Avenue (Park Plaza Hotel), Boston Park Square, 482-3999. $11-$21.

The Park Plaza's revenge on the departing Legal Seafoods is this upscale fish-house chain out of Portland. It doesn't exceed Legal's at what Legal's does best, but it does offer more restaurant-like desserts, vegetables, sauces, bar specialties, and a cool selection of airmail oysters. It's much posher and somewhat more expensive than Legal's, too.

P.F. CHANG'S, 8 Park Plaza (Transportation Building), Boston, 573-0821. $9-$13. Hey, it's a chain, and some of the food isn't really Chinese. Stick carefully to dumplings, seafood, salads, and the chocolate torte (!), and you'll want to visit all 25 other branches. Another tip might be to follow Shanghai specialties like the red-sauced wontons and lemon scallops.

CAMBRIDGE

CENTRAL SQUARE

GREEN STREET GRILL, 280 Green St., Cambridge, 876-1655. $14-$20. (Mondays $9.95 for limited menu with live music starting after 10 p.m.) Hot Caribbean tastes in a gritty Soho-style bar. Not for the faint of heart or timid of palate.

KOREANA, 154–158 Prospect St., Cambridge, 576-8661. $8-$20 (lunch, $7-$9). Savory Korean barbecues, spicy Korean stir-fries, and top-flight sushi make this the most impressive Japanese-Korean restaurant yet. Warm and informal. Have kabli or a sushi assortment, and save some of the marinated raw skate wing for me.

MARY CHUNG RESTAURANT, 464 Mass Ave., Cambridge, 864-1991. $5-$10 (lunch, $4-$5). A revival of the last really good '70s–'80s Mandarin-Szechuan restaurant of Central Square, complete with the same superior Peking raviolis, suan la chow show, chicken velvet, and dun dun noodles, and the same techno-nerd customers crowding in to get them. **BR** Dim sum served on Sat. and Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MIDDLE EAST CAFÉ, 472 and 480 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 354-8238. $8-$12 (lunch, $4-$6). One of the more explicitly Arabic restaurants in the area, with a distinctly Lebanese menu. Strong on the kibbees; excellent beer selection. **BR** Sat. and Sun., 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PU PU HOT POT, 907 Main St., Cambridge, 491-6636. $5-$13. Despite the name and modest size, a very fine Mandarin-Szechuan restaurant with a Taiwanese emphasis on deep frying and good lists of vegetarian specialties and Shanghai cold appetizers. Don't miss the big noodle soups, vegetable tempura, orange-flavor chicken, strange-flavor shrimp, or the "Pu Pu scallion doughnuts," which take scallion pancakes to a whole new dimension.

EAST CAMBRIDGE

ATASCA, 279A Broadway, Cambridge, 354-4355. $13-$26. A warm, friendly restaurant with big butcher-block tables which makes a great case for the underappreciated food of Portugal. Order a couple bottles of vinho verde and enjoy the chopped-octopus salad and amêijoas na cataplana — clams in a traditional copper steamer. Check out the new, larger Hampshire Street location.

MARRAKESH, 561 Cambridge St., East Cambridge, 497-1614. $10-$15 (lunch, $5-$11). "The only authentic Moroccan restaurant in Massachusetts," and how would we know otherwise? Certainly delicious, but be sure to combine the bland couscous dishes with the brilliantly sauced lamb mashmash, Moroccan chicken, "tlaya cous cous," or Souiri fish tagine. Also neat salads, the savory-sweet chicken bastilla, hearty soups, and sweet mint tea.

HARVARD SQUARE

BOMBAY CLUB, 57 JFK St. (Galleria Mall), Cambridge, 661-8100. $9-$15. (buffet lunch, $5.95). Inching above Boston standards, Bombay Club offers a familiar menu in unfamiliarly airy, contemporary surroundings. The divine is in the little things, like the buttering of mint chutney in the cheese pakoras, the distinctive spicing in the vegetarian curries, the texture and charcoal flavor of the reshmi kebab. Good breads.

CHEZ HENRI, One Shepard St., Cambridge, 354-8980. $17-$22. A classic French bistro with a Cuban flair: loud, casual, warm, and nourishing. Try the steamed mussels in creamy saffron broth, blanquette de veau on egg noodles, steak frite with sofrito and fries, trout à la meunière, lemon hazelnut tartlette. Cuban bar food is available until midnight, Fridays through Saturdays. **BR** Sun., 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

FIRE & ICE, 50 Church St. Cambridge, (617) 547-9007. $13.75.- Fast, fun, and flexible. Fire + Ice crosses Benihana with a salad bar, so you mix and match ingredients and sauces for a stir-fry on their 8-foot circular open griddle. As long as you remember that too much variety cancels out the flavors, you can eat well and as much as you want. Loud, youngish tone does not disguise the "ice" — drinks and beers — side of the equation.

GRAFTON STREET, 1280 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 497-0400. $10-$17. (lunch, $6 to $11) This place is pure New Harvard Square: pretty, woody, slightly tony, trendy as all heck. The dishes sound Irish but are mostly profuse takes on New American ideas. Your best bet is to enjoy the simpler stuff (salads, fish and chips), the excellent beer selection, and the buzz around the bar. **BR** Sun., 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE, 1 Bennett St., Charles Hotel, Cambridge, 661-5005. $12-$20. Freshness is the theme here, with a farm-stand built right into the decor. Chefs visible in an open kitchen prepare down-home, cozy country fare, as well as simple but inspired Continental cuisine and fresh-baked desserts. Impressive, if pricey ($42 per person). Sunday brunch. **BR** Sun., noon to 3 p.m.

HOUSE OF BLUES, 96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-2583. $6-$20. Excellent service and Southern menu are mainstays in an environment filled with great music and a remarkable collection of folk art. Live music Sunday through Wednesday at 9 p.m. and Thursday through Saturday at 10 p.m. **BR** Gospel brunch Sun. at 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m.

JOHN HARVARD'S BREW HOUSE, 33 Dunster St., Cambridge, 868-3585. $6-$17. Try all the ales (brewed right here) on the Bard's Sampler, then split a romantic pint of the winner, likely the toasty Irish Export Stout. Food is actually very good — homemade chowders, their signature chicken pot pie, grilled meatloaf, and stout mudslide pie. **BR** Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

SANDRINE'S BISTRO, 8 Holyoke St., Cambridge, 497-5300. $15-$29. Pretty serious and beautifully composed food, especially for something called a bistro, but the dedication to the food of Alsace ensures that soups and entrées will have hearty, bistro-like flavors. And then there's the signature pizza-like flammekueche, loaded with onions and smoked bacon. Fabulously composed desserts.

INMAN SQUARE

AKBAR INDIA RESTAURANT, 1248–50 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 497-6548. $7-$15 (lunch, $5-$7). The usual Indian menu, plus some valuably different South Indian small plates, such as masala dosai. Try the pastry-wrapped samosas, the oddly spiced aloo bada and dahi vada, the mint-coriander chutney, garlic nan, and any of the tandoori dishes.

CAFÉ CHINA, 1245 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 868-4300. $8-$14. A small, elegant restaurant characterized by contemporary Chinese cuisine, decor, and ambiance. Jazz background music, extensive beer and wine list, and homemade fortune cookies dipped in dark chocolate.

MAGNOLIAS, 1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 576-1971. $10-$21. The Cajun food is still the best. Wider Southern menu takes in fried green tomatoes, super Key lime pie. Portobello mushrooms and informal tone are strictly from Cambridge.

S&S DELI, 1334 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 354-0620. $6-$13. You can get a bit of everything here — traditional deli food to innovative entrées to desserts. Great burgers and omelets; popular for weekend brunch. **BR** Sat. and Sun., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

KENDALL SQUARE/MIT

MANHATTAN SAMMY'S, 1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, 252-0044. $4-$10 (breakfast, $3-$7). Remarkably haimische flavors in a Tech Square deli, including real steamed pastrami, as well as handsome salads and yuppie sodas. Loud enough for the kishke to taste right, quiet enough to discuss network software.

RHYTHM & SPICE, 315 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 497-0977. $9-$14. A lively, hip tribute to the English-speaking Caribbean with a reggae/soca beat, a beachy tone, warm staff, and excellent food. Try the gundy, festivals, escovitched fish, the coffee, and staying late for the dancing. **BR** Sun., noon to 3 p.m. with live pan music.

ROYAL EAST, 782-792 Main St., Cambridge, (617) 661-1660. $6-$13. A roomy and remarkably inexpensive pair of dining rooms, with a lot of Asian family business. Order what you see on their tables, such as Cantonese-style seasonal vegetables and seafood, but don't miss anything green on the whiteboards.

THAI'S, 1 Kendall Sq. (Building 300), Cambridge, 577-8668. $9-$16 (lunch, $6-$8). Lovely, elegant, uncrowded place with tuxedoed servers — and you can still get delectable Thai (and some Vietnamese) food. Great fried appetizers and unusual grilled flavor in the Vietnamese shrimp-asparagus roll and grilled meats with lemongrass. Also, credibly hot jumbo shrimp chee and a generous pad Thai.

PORTER SQUARE

CHANGSHO, 1712 Mass Ave, Cambridge, (617) 547-6565. $10-$17 ($8.50 lunch buffet). An elegant survivor from the great days of Cambridge Szechuan restaurants, especially if you stick with Cantonese-style seafood and vegetables, salt-and-pepper calamari, steamed Chilean sea bass with ginger and scallion, and whatever the whiteboard specials indicate. **BR** Dim sum Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

CHRISTOPHER'S, 1920 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 876-9180. $6-$15. Serves Southwestern and Tex-Mex food, as well as sandwiches, burgers, and salads. A popular neighborhood hangout and a pleasant place to linger over a beer or coffee and dessert. **BR** Sun., 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PORTERHOUSE CAFÉ, 2046 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 354-9793. $8-$14. Texas heaven. Food is heavily smoked, Texas style, so start with the pulled chicken and various beef components. Hot barbecue sauces. Great fries. Meatphobes can eat the grilled fish.

BROOKLINE

BOMBAY BISTRO, 1353 Beacon St. (Coolidge Corner), Brookline, 734-2879. $8-$14. A new, modern look in Indian restaurants makes this one suddenly popular amid the Szechuan fans of Brookline. Well-executed dishes off the familiar Punjabi menu, with some new ones to this market: chicken or seafood xacuti with tamarind-coconut curry, and a Peshawari nan with coconut and raisins. You can even dress up a little.

CAFÉ ST. PETERSBURG, 236 Washington St. (Brookline Village), 277-7100. $9-$19 (lunch, $4-$7). A serious, elegant, small Russian restaurant, featuring cool, neoclassical renditions of flavorful Russian dishes. Nothing sloppy about the borscht here, nor the blini, the pozharski cutlet, or chicken tabaka. A lot of neat vegetarian surprises, like beet cutlets, vegetarian stuffed cabbage with raisins, and a great venigret beet-potato salad. Waiters wear tuxedos even at lunch.

FAJITAS & 'RITAS, 48 Boylston St. (Rte. 9), Brookline, 566-1222. $5-$12. Lively, casual Tex-Mex restaurant and margarita bar.

KIYOSHI SUSHI HOUSE, 398 Harvard St. (Coolidge Corner), Brookline, 232-5800, 739-8679. $6-$10. Authentic addition to the several small sushi palaces along Harvard Street and Harvard Avenue. Unusual sushi include marinated vegetables, but one should not miss the noodle soups. Soundtrack of '50s jazz.

KOKOPELLI CHILI CO., 1648 Beacon St. (Washington Square), Brookline, 277-2880. $7-$15 Sunday brunch buffet, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Ignore the name and the seven kinds of chile and go through the New Mexico–style dishes with one or more of their superb margaritas. Don't miss the sopaipillas, grilled vegetables, and a side of sweet-potato fries. A fun, bar kind of atmosphere that some kids will also enjoy, but not hokey. Probably should be hokier, in fact.

MATT MURPHY'S, 14 Harvard St. (Brookline Village), 232-0188. $6-$16. Real Irish pub with good food. Actually rather good Irish food at that. Very bizarre, but everyone else is too busy enjoying to make much of the situation. Insanely large portions, too. Don't miss anything with the French fries and homemade ketchup, the various savory pies, soups, salads — really, anything. **BR** Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

NIKO'S RESTAURANT, 187 Harvard St. (Coolidge Corner), Brookline, 277-2999. $4-$14. A rare find: actual Greek food at Greek prices and plenty of it. Dips like ultra-garlicky

skordalia and subtle taramasalata. Cheap, huge spinach pies, gyro sandwiches. Full-flavored meatballs, stuffed grape leaves, roast lamb, and real mashed potatoes. Very decent fried chicken for the kids. Small but sincere. **BR** daily, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

PHO LEMONGRASS, 239 Harvard St., Coolidge Corner, Brookline, (617) 731-8600. $7-$16. A pretty and lively place bringing good Vietnamese food to Brookline, especially the pho chicken soup, fried appetizers, vermicelli plates, and "lemongrass tofu." Have a smoothie for dessert, or walk up to JP Licks.

RUBIN'S KOSHER RESTAURANT, 500 Harvard St. (JFK Crossing), Brookline, 566-8761. $5-$12.50. The only Boston kosher restaurant that vies with the better Manhattan delis in the all-important pastrami category. Warm, non-exclusionary atmosphere. The only problem is, 30 days later you're hungry again. **BR** Sun., 8 a.m. to noon.

SHALOM HUNAN, 92 Harvard St. (Brookline Village), 731-9778. $7-$20. Glatt kosher attempts at the classic dishes of pork-loving China, succeeding perfectly with the steamed sea bass, and pretty well with pan-fried dumplings, mu shu veal, and General Tso's chicken. Nice service and chocolate cake for dessert offset a somewhat sweet-and-bland palate.

SICHUAN GARDEN, 295 Washington St., Brookline, 734-1870. $7-$26. Serious Szechuan menu in a very plesant room. Not everything is great, but the Sichuan pork dumpling with roasted chili vinaigrette, ma pau tofu, sauteed stringbeans and "camphur smoked duck" certainly are. One of the most regionally focused Chinese restaurants around, on what is still a lot of people's favorite region.

YOKOHAMA, 238 Washington St., Brookline Village, 734-6465. $9-$25 (lunch, $7-$9). Small jewel box of a Japanese restaurant, with some good Korean dishes as well. Wide selection of appetizers and sushi, generous entrées of tempura, noodle soups, and teriyaki. Don't miss the "stone pot bibim-bap" or the combo tempura.

NEWTON

APPETITO, 761 Beacon St. (Newton Centre), Newton, 244-9881. $10-$19. Wildly popular, no-reservation café-bar with good Italian food and an interesting undertone of what used to be called "Continental." People dress informally, but eat nicely arranged salads and antipasti, al dente pasta, grilled specialties with real whipped potatoes, tortes, and tarts. Brunch/lunch served 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

JOHNNY'S LUNCHEONETTE, 30 Langley Rd. (Newton Centre), Newton, 527-3223. $5-$12. Too many concepts — '50s diner, post-modern revival, Jewish deli, kid-friendly — but the good food makes a certain sense of it. I especially recommend the Jewish-identified stuff like matzoh-ball soup, Reuben sandwiches, and kosher-style hot dogs. Only trendoid thing is the wall art; otherwise good attitude, tasteful even. **BR** Daily, all day.

PAPA RAZZI, 199 Boylston St. (Chestnut Hill Mall, Chestnut Hill), Newton, 527-6600. $9-$20 (lunch, $5-$11). A modestly priced restaurant serving particularly good salads, al dente pastas, and pizzas. Also look for veal dishes and Tuscan sausage. **BR** Sun., 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

PICCOLA LUNA, 108 Oak St. (Newton Upper Falls), Newton, 630-9569. $14-$16. Formerly Moon Woman Café. A little place with a big menu, Mediterranean (and some Parisian) dishes with flavor, texture, and real heart. Hard to find, but a find. Closed until evening.

SABRA, 45 Union St. (Newton Centre), Newton, 964-9275. $5-$15. A typical Israeli/Middle East restaurant with an outstanding luncheon buffet ($6.95). Invest heavily in the rice-and-lentil dardara, eggplant moussaka, tabouleh, spicy hummus, and such. On the meat side of the menu, a cute trick of spicing the shwarma like pastrami, with coriander seed and mustard.

SOL AZTECA, 75 Union St. (Newton Centre), Newton, 964-0920. $12-$18. The area's best Mexican restaurant, admittedly not a very competitive honor, opens a beautifully decorated branch in Newton Centre. No dilution in such classics as the grilled shrimp in cilantro sauce, puero en adobo, and evident improvement in standard Mexican items like chicken enchiladas. Mexican coffee with cloves and a homemade cheesecake.

SOMERVILLE

EAT, 253 Washington St., Somerville, 776-2889. $13-$19. More homey than haute, this Union Square hole in the wall is at its best with modern takes on American faves like pork chops, catfish, and pear crisp. A pleasant, parlorlike room fills up with neighbors who like the friendly vibe and the owner, Charlie, who circulates around the tables checking in on everyone's dinner.

JOHNNY D'S UPTOWN RESTAURANT, 17 Holland St. (Davis Square), Somerville, 776-2004. $6-$14. Where else can you eat inventive, healthy food while sipping draft microbrews and listening to Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson? Try the conch fritters with sweet-potato fries, maverick grits, vegetarian dishes, anything Southern. **BR** Sat. and Sun., 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

JOSHUA TREE, 256 Elm Street (Davis Square), Somerville; 623-9910. $6-$15 It's in Davis Square, but it's designed like a downtown trendster bar, with industrial steel trim and waiters in black T-shirts. The menu is mostly by-the-numbers bar food and Mexican stuff, but it does have its moments: terrific pinto beans; a "mojo roast pork loin" that got our mojo going. Thirty-two beers on tap. **BR** Sat., 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sun., 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

OUT OF TOWN

CAFE MISONO AND SUSHI BAR, 669 V.F.W. Parkway- Rte. 1 (The Village at Chestnut Hill), West Roxbury, (617) 325-9919. $8-$16. A rare West Roxbury claimant to culinary attention, Misono shows that a Japanese-Korean menu can be workable, even lively, in the provinces. A small pretty place with a diverse clientele, but seek out the udon noodle soups, dumplings, anything fried, and spicy Korean dishes like stir-fried calamari.

FLORA, 190 Mass Ave, East Arlington, (781) 641-1664. $16-$22 (brunch, $6-$13) . Located in a renovated bank, the solo project of journeyman chef Bob Sargent is strong on grillwork and full of catchy touches, like the arugula-fennel-calamari salad, and the intensely garlicked escarole under the leg of lamb. **BR** Sun, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

IPANEMA RESTAURANT AND CHURRASCARIA, 106 Southville Rd. (corner of Rt. 85), Southborough, (508) 460-6144. $8-$16. Fifty minutes from Boston, but close enough to the Brazilian community of Framingham for top-notch mandioca frita, pastels, a superb muqueca of shrimp and halibut, and an uncrowded churrasco (Brazilian barbecue). Big American-style roadhouse — comfortable if unexotic. Live music and feijoada on weekend nights.

KONG LUH, 9 Medford St. (Arlington Center), Arlington, (781) 643-2456. $5-$13. Kong Luh opens up new regions of China, as the chef is a Mongol from Manchuria, though also influenced by the subtleties of Beijing cuisine. The result is a small restaurant of large interest, especially the Mongol rolls, parou, "sour and sweet vegetable" (actually a pickle), and any of the soups.

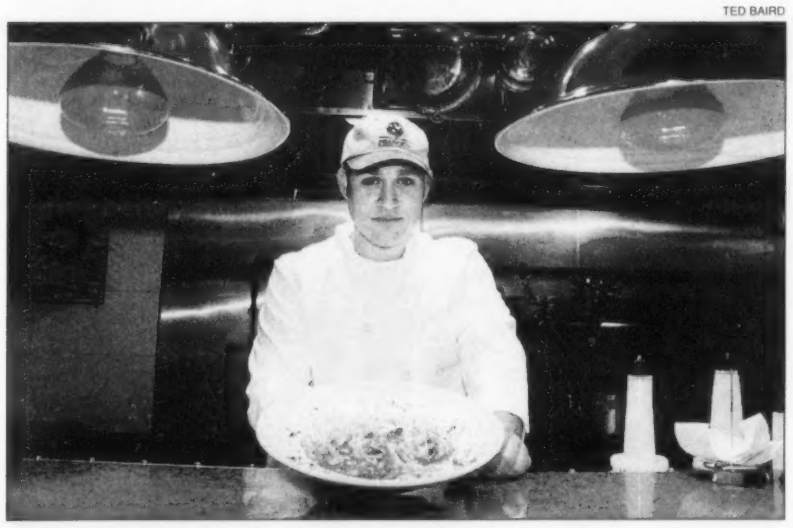
LAYLA MEDITERRANEO BISTRO AND BAR, 323 Turnpike St., Canton, (781) 821-8881. $16-$22. Finally, a source for garlic and cumin south of Route 128. Excellent regional dishes from Spain, Southern France, Italy, Greece, Lebanon, Turkey, Armenia, and North Africa, many innovatively prepared. Don't let the exterior scare you off.

PROSE, 352a Mass Ave, Arlington, (781) 648-2800. $14-$21. Behind the curious name lurks a cheery, if bare-bones, corner restaurant entirely dedicated to the creative flights of its chef and owner, Debbie Shore. The menu rarely repeats itself from night to night, and regular visitors are treated to a series of rewarding experiments with more ingredients than we have space to list. Search out the soft wild-mushroom polenta and any dish that includes grilled fish.

TUSCAN GRILL, 361 Moody St., Waltham, (781) 891-5486. $14-$21. Actually focused on the wonderful food of Tuscany, actually featuring outstanding grilled squid, shrimp, steak, and duckling, this is the North Italian boutique restaurant that delivers more than it claims. Food good enough for tuxedos in a room informal enough for sweaters. Don't miss the gnocchi or the cacciucco (fish stew) in your rush for the grilled dishes. Terrific wines, too.

on the cheap

TED BAIRD



Amelia's Trattoria

Affordable Italian food warms a concrete jungle

Over the years, Kendall Square has grown into a hodgepodge of mismatched buildings contributing to a sea of traffic (and precious little parking). But wander onto Harvard Street and you'll find an island pulsing with life: Amelia's Trattoria, an ideal place for an upscale but inexpensive lunch.

With hearty servings of Abruzzo-style Italian food, this sleek but warm eatery attracts MIT professors and students, along with casually dressed high-techies from neighboring businesses. Though the restaurant faces a concrete parking structure, the chill wears off quickly when the Italian waiter describes his menu favorites. And he's right, too. The excellent black mussels ($7.95) are heaped in a deep dish with enough sauce and bruschetta to make a meal of them. A basket of warm focaccia, made daily, is perfect dipped in the sauce or in extra-virgin olive oil.

The mammoth grilled-chicken-on-focaccia sandwich (one of almost a dozen choices, each of which costs $6.75), made with fresh mozzarella and sun-dried tomatoes, could be shared. Most of the salads, a short list, are served on a bed of mixed field greens, which can be served alone ($4), with grilled chicken ($5.95), or with antipasto ($5.95). Larger appetites should go for the lasagna Abruzzo ($10) — food enough for two.

And don't skip dessert: tiramisu, almond cheesecake, or cannoli ($2 to $4.95). All are homemade by Amelia herself.

Amelia's Trattoria, located at 111 Harvard Street (Kendall Square) in Cambridge, is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5 to 10 p.m., and on Saturday from 5 to 10 p.m. Closed on Sunday. Free parking after 5 p.m. Call (617) 868-7600.

— Elisabeth Townsend

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music

Tech-Mex

Nortec's Tijuana Sessions

"Before us we saw many cities and towns. . . . We were wonderstruck, and we said that what lay before us was like the enchantments related in the legend of Amadis. . . . There is much to ponder in it that I know not how to tell: witnessing things never heard, nor seen, nor even dreamed." These words belong to Spanish explorer and chronicler Bernal Díaz del Castillo, and they were written in 1520, after Spain had landed in the Valley of Mexico.

They were his response to what he could not believe his European eyes beheld: a New World civilization with enough homegrown technology to build pyramids of geometry and stone that lifted the earth closer to the sky. Cut and paste Castillo's astonishment onto the present, and it's a rarely heard First World commentary on the Third — the First World marveling at the technological sophistication of the very folks they're supposed to school, the pre-conquista equivalent of bringing typewriters to a people who are already rocking Macintosh G4s.

But the Spaniards took the Aztecs out, and what's endured over the centuries is a colonial residue that continues to see Mexico through the opposite lens, as a country hopelessly resistant to modernity, where poverty, corruption, moral shiftiness, and a "*mañana*" anti-work ethic reign. "*Hecho en Mexico*" ("Made in Mexico"): shorthand for "It's gonna break." Of course, underneath all this misrepresentation is an entirely different Mexico, a low-tech-meets-high-tech story of tradition getting hotwired and reconfigured within the circuits of advanced information technologies.

Frequencies
by Josh Kun

Celebrating this Mexico — electro-Mexico, digi-Mexico — is at the core of Nortec, a new multimedia artistic movement based in Tijuana. Organized around a collective of DJs, musicians, architects, fashion designers, visual artists, and theorists, Nortec uses digital technology to fuse all things locally *norteño* with all things globally techno. There have been Nortec art exhibits, fashion shows, and architecture installations, but the heart of the group is the music being released on the Mil Records label: samples of old *banda* and *norteño* albums fed into Mac editing software and then recombined over ambient synth washes and icy beat patterns.

Two years in the making, *The Tijuana Sessions Vol. 1* (Palm; in stores February 20) is the first complete Nortec mission statement, 14 cuts of bordertronic hybrids in which *banda*'s burping tubas and machine-gun-quick snare rolls put drum 'n' bass on Tijuana's notorious tourist drag strip Revolución Avenue, and *norteño*'s accordions and guitar strums dress acid-jazz bohemianism in urban-ranchero Stetson hats and tassels. It is, to paraphrase one dayglo Nortec design slogan, gun-slinging narco-corrido king Chalino Sanchez reborn as a postmodern original gangsta.

Bringing new technology to bear on traditional Mexican culture certainly isn't a Nortec invention (Mexico City composer Jorge Reyes has been making pre-hispano electronica for decades), and they're certainly not the only Kraftwerk-descended Mex-ravers to do it (Guadalajara's Nopal Beat crew have launched their own attack on the Opción Sónica release *Acid Cabaret*, where jackhammer techno pulses through Mexican cabaret music and ocarinas). But what Nortec adds to the tech-Mex equation is an aesthetic philosophy that views making music out of the North and South as a necessary means of making a better life for a world that exists between North and South. As one of Nortec's principal ideologues, Pepe Mogt, puts it: "We had to register hundreds of hours in front of the radio searching for sound waves from the North that would take us away from everything we were not or did not want to become."

ELECTRO-MEXICO: *Nortec's* Tijuana Sessions *is like narco-corrido king Chalino Sanchez reborn as a postmodern original gangsta.*

It is this "Fourth World" of the border that Nortec architect Raul Cardenas explores in his art laboratory and clothing company Torolab. Visit his elegantly designed site (www.torolab.com), and you'll see that Cardenas takes Nortec's audio collisions and turns them into architectural blueprints, installation sculptures, tools for art education, and theories for better living through border technology: "Wearing phenomenoscopic goggles, driving the improbability engine, reinventing pretext." Enrique and Joselo Rangel of Mexico City art-rock band Café Tacuba are Torolab associates, as is Enrique Jimenez, a/k/a Ejival, a Tijuana writer and DJ, and the founder of Nimboestatic — the electronica label responsible for last year's lush *La Tejedora de Nubes* compilation, which is dedicated, in his words, "to returning beautiful sound to the sad land of this nation."

Most refreshingly, with all its sophisticated design innovation, theoretical manifestoes, digital audio Nortec loops, and badass T-shirt logos, Torolab is also committed to teaching. More than its music, then, the greatest legacy of Nortec as an art movement will lie in putting its ideas about technology and border culture — about how utilitarian art can transform the worlds we are given into worlds we want to live in — into the hands of a new generation of artists and DJs, so that they, too, can come up with things never heard, or seen, or even dreamed. ■

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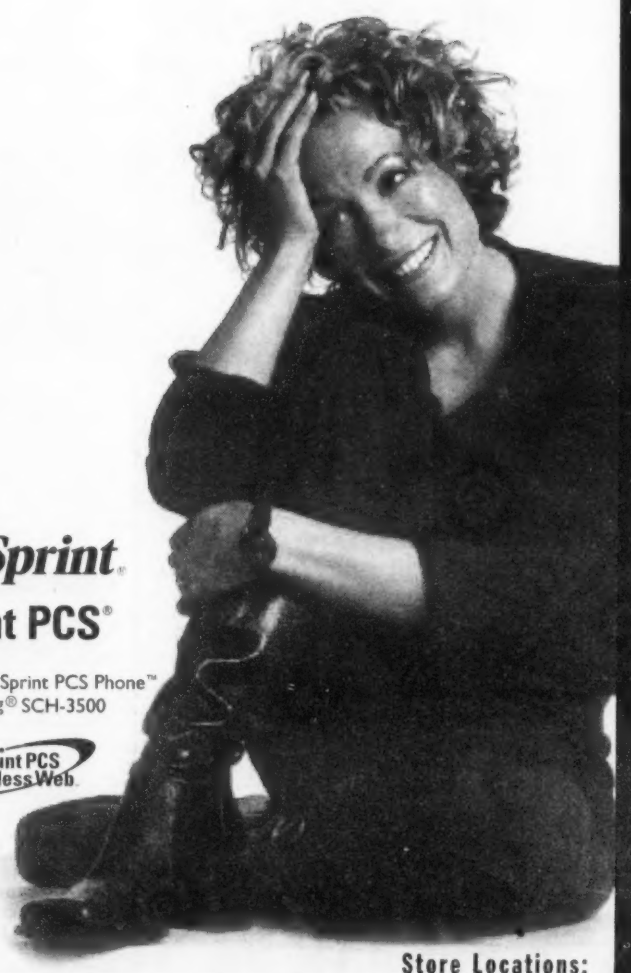

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off the record

CHAMBER FOLK: *WGC have, on their fourth full-length disc, again managed to create lantern-lit worlds that flicker with beauty and despair.*

local

★★★ **Willard Grant Conspiracy, EVERYTHING'S FINE (Rykodisc/Slow River).** Few folks can make new music sound as ancient — or timeless — as Boston's Willard Grant Conspiracy. Waltz-time last wishes ("Notes from the Waiting Room") and midnight-murder ballads ("Ballad of John Parker") rub elbows with road-trip travelogues ("Christmas in Nevada") and quiet hymns to battered souls ("Drunkard's Prayer") on *Everything's Fine*. Despite the disc's title, everything here is most definitely *not* fine for WGC's core songwriting team of Robert Fisher and Paul Austin — and when it is, it's only for a little while. Which is about right, because just as redemption follows sin, so does more sin often follow redemption (the part they always leave out on those VH1 *Behind the Music* specials).

With a typically terrific cast of seasoned, sympathetic characters, WGC have, on their fourth full-length disc, again managed to create lantern-lit worlds that flicker with beauty and despair. Like Lambchop or the Handsome Family, WGC — who again include Peter Linnane (piano), Ray Corvair's Pete Sutton (bass), Come's Chris Brokaw (guitar), and Edith Frost (vocals), among others — continue to refine an artful chamber-folk approach. "I see salvation in the smallest things," Fisher sings in his cautious baritone on the gorgeous closer, "Massachusetts." The sentiment, like the song, is a frosted winter window into the band's bruised heart.

— Jonathan Perry

★★★ **Lamont, POPULATION 3 (Curve of the Earth/Polterchrist).** Musicians can take big, dumb hard rock only so far. And Boston's Lamont go the distance with their 10-song debut, an invigorating workout for the eardrums and soul. It's impossible not to feel a rush from this thrill ride of relentless crunch as it ricochets all over a sonic Bermuda Triangle defined by Motörhead, AC/DC, and Gang Green. Which isn't to say this music is exactly lost, but there is a kind of time-warp quality to it that's often reminiscent of the days when heavy metal was in gestation. However, that's too intellectual a way to measure numbers like "My Flamin' Skull" and "Hell Hound," which are pure jolts of grinding, balls-out energy. Singer/guitarist Pete is all phlegm and sandpaper — and every used power riff in the book. But he's a smart recycler, with a big Gibson tone that's got "wall o' Marshalls" written all over it and the ability to relieve the tension of his barking notes with squealing harmonics and moaning bends. Bassist Cozzy and drummer Bucket keep things slammin'. There's no time for ballads; just a primal instinct to rock that keeps Lamont's faces to the bloody grindstone.

— Ted Drozdowski

pop

★★★ **Labradford, FIXED::CONTEXT (Kranky).** Machine hum. Digital blips. Watery burbles. A distant pulse. These are the sounds of "Twenty," the 18-minute track that begins Labradford's sixth album, *fixed::context*. Evolving at a glacial pace, "Twenty," presents a particularly stark and melancholy vision of post-rock, influenced equally by Ry Cooder's film scores, ambient techno, and long walks in the dark. "Wien" and "Up to Pizmo" are more traditional guitar/bass duets, though the players sound heavily drugged — the sleepy riffs swim and slink through a world of reverb and echo. The Duane Eddy guitar tone and pastoral melodies place the Richmond (Virginia) trio within a particular strain of small-town Americana that draws more from creepy David Lynch flicks than wide-eyed Aaron Copland symphonies, although the dewy keyboard filaments and wondrous synth pads keep the atmosphere from sinking too low. Labradford's brand of minimalism can be maddening in the headphones — it's like waiting for a bus that never comes. But it works as an excellent accompaniment to life's daily rituals — the mindful arrangements and careful pacing lend a meditative, almost mystical mood to the most mundane chores.

— Michael Endelman

(Labradford perform this Friday, February 16, at the Middle East. Call 864-EAST.)

ERIC ANTONIOU

SOUL QUEEN: *traveling from New Orleans to Memphis, Irma Thomas proves she's still got the power.*

★★ **Robert Scott, THE CREEPING UNKNOWN (Thirsty Ear).** Best known for his work with seminal New Zealand underground bands the Bats and the Clean — and, most recently, for making jangle-psych with the Magick Heads — Robert Scott takes an unusual turn on his first solo album, the intimate, cozily recorded *The Creeping Unknown*. Rather than sum up two decades of music-making with undiscovered gems, Scott has crafted a thematic sketchbook, a series of environmental portraits in which he explores, through sound and texture, his South Island environs. Thus we have "Creek County," a plucked ditty on the mandolin, and the warped sounds of a mellotron, reminiscent of whale calls, in the haunting "Footbridge." In between these burbling, mostly instrumental tracks, Scott allows a few of the sort of jaunty but slightly melancholy melodies that have earned his reputation: "Fog and Wind," on which he's joined by Clean-mate David Kilgour, and "When Shade Was Made" are both filled in with more traditional guitar and drum arrangements, making them sound more like finished pieces than studies. A languorous and lovingly rendered exercise, *The Creeping Unknown* should sate Scott's fans until his next full-band outing, but it's not the clearest window into his many talents.

— Lydia Vanderloo

★1/2 **Neil Hagerty, NEIL MICHAEL HAGERTY (Drag City).** As half of Royal Trux, his long-running avant-blooze combo with girlfriend Jennifer Herrema (and as a member of New York guitarrorists Pussy Galore before that), Neil Hagerty's made some of his generation's most compelling junk rock, full of funhouse-mirror guitars and barely coherent babbling about ghosts and sex and blood and cats and dogs. After toiling in willful obscurity for years, the Trux released a couple of records on Virgin's dime in the early '90s (one of the more unlikely results of the post-grunge major-label feeding frenzy), only to return to Drag City, the Chicago indie that gave them their start, just as they'd begun to sound oddly like a bad Black Crowes cover band. Allegedly drug-free, they did go on to make two of the best albums of their career, 1998's *Accelerator* and 1999's *Veterans of Disorder*. But Hagerty's new solo CD suggests that the he may be out of creative fuel once again: it's little more than a hunk of curdled jam-band cheese half-assedly hooked up to a skimpy arsenal of lo-fi keyboards and dumpstered beatboxes. Indeed, the bulk of the material sounds like little more than Hagerty's desperate attempt to will himself, and the Trux, further into obscurity.

— Mikael Wood

jazz

★★★ **Bob Nieske 3, SIMPLICITY (Accurate).** Bassist Bob Nieske's trio makes airy, intimate, and lyrical free jazz that's easy to get next to. Nieske, trumpeter Phil Grenadier, and drummer Nat Mugavero are all careful listeners, which means the music can get busy without sounding crowded. But just as important, they can say a lot with a little. Each concise track on *Simplicity* packs an emotional wallop with a poetic minimum of notes. For instance, Nieske's moving solo on the haunting ballad "Wee Three" plumbs profound emotional depths with just a few simple notes. Drummer Mugavero's highly edited accompaniment is full of space and delicate shadings, but nevertheless provides drive and momentum. Grenadier harnesses a warm, dark tone and big vocabulary of expressive smears and frayed notes to an effortlessly lyrical approach that is a perfect foil to Nieske's own melodic inventiveness. When the trio locks into its three-way contrapuntal interplay, tunes like "The Stretch," "Emma," and "Phil's Thrill" achieve an organic unity heard only in the very best improvised music. On six of the album's 13 tracks, the Lydian String Quartet joins the trio to provide harmonic thickening and richer coloration.

— Ed Hazell

(The Bob Nieske 3 and the Lydian String Quartet perform at the Regattabar this Wednesday, February 21. Call 876-7777.)

blues

★★★ **Irma Thomas, MY HEART'S IN MEMPHIS: THE SONGS OF DAN PENN (Rounder).** Irma Thomas has made her career in New Orleans, but she traveled upriver to another city with a soulful history to put her powerful, slightly smoky vocals to this set of tunes written by Dan Penn, whose most famous works include "Do Right Woman" and "Dark End of the Street." It's a familiar and fitting match, since Thomas, who's had hits with "Ruler of My Heart" and "Time Is on My Side," has previously recorded some of the stately, direct love ballads Penn likes to work up with his collaborators. In addition to Penn classics including "A Woman Left Lonely" and "I'm Your Puppet," the set also contains tunes Penn put together around the time of the recording. Perhaps as a result, some tracks — "Hurtin' for Certain," for example — seem to be missing his golden touch. The backing from Memphis studio regulars is as solid as it comes, with no emphasis on solos and lots of thoughtful touches from the horn section or guitarist Michael Toles. The sound is maybe a little too smooth to show Thomas or Penn at their most powerful, but it is another sturdy set from a legend of soul who definitely still has the power.

— Bill Kisliuk

(Irma Thomas performs at the Regattabar this Friday and Saturday, February 16 and 17. Call 876-7777.)

reissues

★★ **Blind Faith, DELUXE EDITION (Polydor).** A stressed-out Eric Clapton had just left Cream, and Steve Winwood had exited Traffic. In 1969, they were revered as both rock stars and musicians. What's shocking 32 years later is not that their band, Blind Faith, made just one album and lasted only seven months before breaking up: it's that they managed to make an album at all. It was supposed to be just Eric and Steve working out a musical vibe together. But when big bad Ginger Baker from Cream, with a personality as overpowering as his 20-minute drum solos, showed up at Clapton's Surrey estate with his skins, neither budding superstar had the gumption to tell him to go home. By their US tour, booked before an album was completed (with bass player Rick Grech from Family rounding out the foursome), Blind Faith had developed a blinding musical migraine. Though Clapton had hoped to restoke his rock-and-roll passion by communing with the spirit of Buddy Holly, Faith's version of "Well All Right" anticipates '70s pretension rather than recalling '50s innocence. It's tough to stretch what had been little more than a half-hour of music onto two CDs, so *Deluxe Edition* contains not only some not very interesting outtakes and redundancies, but an entire 60-minute disc consisting of four jams. Only the Winwood-organ-driven "Jam #3" is worth a second listen.

— Wayne Robins

television

THURSDAY

9:00 (2) Mystery: *The Ice House.* A fill-in repeat of an old show based on Minette Walters's murder novel about a missing man and his accused wife and how Chief Inspector George Walsh reopened the case a decade after the fact. Quite creepy and, frankly, a little difficult to follow. To be repeated on Sunday at 3 a.m. (Until midnight.)

1:00 a.m. (44) Mystery: *Inspector Morse: The Wench Is Dead.* Being bedridden in the hospital gives Morse the opportunity to time-travel and unravel an 1859 case involving a floating body in the Oxford Canal and two innocent men convicted of the murder. Title courtesy of Christopher Marlowe. To be repeated at 4 a.m., and on Wednesday at 9 p.m. (Until 3 a.m.)

FRIDAY

8:00 (44) Frontline: *Hackers.* Repeated from last week. Interviews with teens, security experts, and some cultural subset designated as "information warriors" about the role hackers play in the wired world. To be repeated on Monday at 1 p.m. (Until 9 p.m.)

9:00 (44) Hopes on the Horizon. Black History Month lifts all boats. A documentary on democracy in six African nations extols the 1990s as the most politically active era since the independence-driven '60s. And by the way, we screwed up last week in our listing for the BHM special *Nantucket: Rock of Changes.* Despite what we typed, members of the island's African-American community were among the first to fight *for* school integration — not against. (Until 11 p.m.)

9:30 (2) Bob Marley: Rebel Music. The world's "original reggae superstar" profiled through old footage and his music — with the Wailers and beyond. To be repeated on Saturday at 10:30 p.m. on Channel 44. (Until 11 p.m.)

SATURDAY

1:00 (5) Basketball. UMass versus Temple.

2:00 (44) Paul Robeson: Here I Stand. In vocal headliner Robeson's day, to be a black performer on the serious side of things involved a lot of political and social baggage. This profile spotlights Robeson's place on the international stage. (Until 4 p.m.)

4:00 (44) Aida's Brothers and Sisters: Black Voices in Opera. A survey of black opera stars from the obscure (but apparently fantastic) 19th-century diva Sissieretta Jones through the more recent and familiar voices of Marian Anderson, Paul Robeson, Leontyne Price, Jessye Norman, and Kathleen Battle. (Until 5:30 p.m.)

7:00 (44) A Hymn for Alvin Ailey. A tribute to the choreographer centering on the theatrical dance work *Hymn* by the Ailey troupe's longtime artistic director, Judith Jamison. Plus interviews with Ailey and his associates. To be repeated tonight at midnight. (Until 8 p.m.)

8:00 (5) Dr. Dolittle (movie). Apparently repeated from last week. (Hey, it works for cable and for PBS.) Eddie Murphy in a 1998 remake that has the good doc rapping, not singing, with the animals. From MC Disney. (Until 10 p.m.)

8:00 (7) XFL 2001 — Game 3. The original cast of *Cats* versus Teamsters Local 529.

8:00 (44) Ella Fitzgerald: Something To Live For. We got a hint of Ella's mastery in Ken Burns's *Jazz.* But not enough. In this, Tony Bennett takes us on a Fitzgerald life tour and showcases her many, varied, and remarkable collaborations with other performers. (Until 9:30 p.m.)

9:30 (2) Sidney Poitier: One Bright Light. A profile of the groundbreaking Hollywood star narrated by his 1967 *In the Heat of the Night* co-star Lee Grant. With clips and stories from *The Defiant Ones, Lilies of the Field, A Patch of Blue,* and *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner.* What?! No *To Sir, with Love*? (Until 10:30 p.m.)

10:30 (44) Bob Marley: Rebel Music. Repeated from Thursday at 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

1:00 (2) Bringing Up Baby (movie). Repeated from last week. Cary Grant plays a zoologist confronting heiress Katharine Hepburn and her pet leopard. From 1938, and directed by Howard Hawks. (Until 2:45 p.m.)

1:30 (38) Hockey. The Bruins versus the Carolina Hurricanes.

2:45 (2) The Year of Living Dangerously (movie). We remember this as one of the last good movies made — certainly involving Mel Gibson. Mel stars as a reporter navigating the dangerous political environment of post-Sukarno Djakarta with the help of a funny little man played by Linda Hunt. Peter Weir directed, in 1983. Co-starring Sigourney Weaver and Michael Murphy. (Until 4:40 p.m.)

7:00 (5) Ever After (movie). For all those lit-challenged morons who waste their time complaining that fairy tales reinforce non-PC stereotypes, we have this 1998 feminist update of the Cinderella story starring Drew Barrymore as the kick-ass damsel who don't need no motherfuckin' Prince Charming to save *her* booty. Co-starring Anjelica Huston, Dougray Scott, and Patrick Godfrey (playing Leonardo da Vinci, who somehow got worked into the plot). With Jeanne Moreau as the queen of France who lays this revisionist cant on the Brothers Grimm (who actually had nothing to do with making up the Cinderella story in the first place). Putting the ridiculous and unnecessary aspects of this aside, it's not a bad movie. Stepsisterhood is powerful? (Until 9 p.m.)

8:00 (44) Unfaithfully Yours (movie). A 1948 comedy starring Rex Harrison as a suspicious-husband symphony conductor plotting romantic revenge from the podium. Directed by Preston Sturges. (Until 9:45 p.m.)

9:00 (2) Masterpiece Theatre: *Anna Karenina,* part one. Helen McCrory stars as the title tragic mistress in this modern edition of Leo Tolstoy's 1877 novel about sex, betrayal, death, remorse, and other famous Russian-fiction conventions. With Kevin McKidd (one of Mike Leigh's family of players from *Topsy-Turvy* and *Trainspotting*) as her way-too-dedicated admirer, Count Vronsky. To be repeated tonight at 1 and 4 a.m. on Channel 44. (Until 11 p.m.)

9:00 (7) The Princess and the Marine (movie). A new TV-movie for which details are currently unavailable. How about: a Marine stationed in Saudi Arabia falls in love with an exiled sheik's daughter. Good enough. Adam Vernier and Marisol Nichols star. (Until 11 p.m.)

10:30 (44) Conscience and the Constitution (movie). We didn't treat the Japanese well during World War II, and while that might seem understandable, it wasn't so cool that we extended our distrust to Japanese who were also American citizens. We put them in concentration camps and then, oddly, drafted them into the Army. This film tells the story of 85 Japanese-American inductees who refused the draft, hoping to pressure the government to release their parents from camp. They were persecuted and jailed for making their point. To be repeated on Monday at midnight. (Until 11 p.m.)

11:00 (2) Mystery: *The Last Morse.* Apparently John Thaw has played out his role as Oxford's Inspector Morse and this series finale is actually a documentary featuring Thaw and co-star Kevin Whately, series creators Colin Dexter and Ted Childs, and members of the supporting cast. We weren't aware of this series' cult status, but if they say so . . . To be repeated on Wednesday at 4:30 a.m., and at 8 p.m. on Channel 44. (Until midnight.)

1:00 and 4:00 a.m. (44) Masterpiece Theatre: *Anna Karenina,* part one. Repeated from this evening at 9 p.m.

3:00 a.m. (2) Mystery: *The Ice House.* Repeated from Thursday at 9 p.m.

MONDAY

1:00 (44) Frontline: *Hackers.* Repeated from Friday at 8 p.m.

8:00 (5) Good Will Hunting (movie). We never did connect with the cleverness of this 1997 critical darling, and as a piece of filmmaking, it's got a lot of flaws. Nevertheless, we applaud Gus Van Sant for doing something different and purposeful amid a filmmaking era of corporate-driven crap. Ben Affleck and Matt Damon win the hearts of America as a pair of Southie kids with more wit and ability than their neighbors — especially title-roler Matt, whose unlikely penchant for higher math brings him to the attention of community-college prof Robin Williams and Ivy League dream-girl Minnie Driver. Unfulfilled ideas and unrealized opportunities abound, but it's still fun. Even a tad inspiring. (Until 11 p.m. — expect a *lot* of commercials.)

9:00 (2) The American Experience: *Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided,* part one. A three-part *American Experience* extravaganza devoted to the first family of the 19th century. The neglected Mary Lincoln was born to a slave-keeping aristocratic Southern family, determined early in life that she wanted to marry a president, lost kin to the Union Army during the Civil War, lost children to childhood diseases, cracked up and was institutionalized after her husband was assassinated, and died in obscurity. Meanwhile, her undereducated homegrown-statesman husband became the central figure of his century and the most iconic US prez ever. This documentary (with dramatization and lots of voice-over readings) explores the couple's relationship and private struggles. Holly Hunter does Mary's voice ("Darling, they're calling me a Rebel sympathizer"); David Morse provides Abe's ("Not now, Mary, I'm freeing the slaves"). Written by Ken Burns collaborator Geoffrey C. Ward. This will be good, but six hours is way too much. To be continued on Tuesday and Wednesday, starting at 9 p.m. To be repeated tonight at 1 and 4 a.m. on Channel 44. The entire six-hour documentary will air next Friday, February 23, starting at midnight. (Until 11 p.m.)

9:00 (44) Mystery: *Inspector Morse: Death Is Now My Neighbor.* We get several Morse tales during this swansong week. In this, we reinforce the impression that Oxford (in reality a quiet, basically pastoral place) is an extremely dangerous place when two locals are murdered within 24 hours. To be repeated on Wednesday at 1 a.m. on Channel 2. (Until 11 p.m.)

Midnight (44) Conscience and the Constitution (movie). Repeated from Sunday at 10:30 p.m.

1:00 and 4:00 a.m. (44) The American Experience: *Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided,* part one. Repeated from this evening at 9 p.m.

TUESDAY

8:00 (2) Secrets of the Pharaohs: *Lost City of the Pyramids.* They're big, triangular, and spooky, and they're out in the middle of nowhere. Who has the time, energy, and motivation to create such things? Archaeologists recently dug up some answers to those ancient puzzles with the discovery of a town where the pyramid builders lived. To be repeated tonight at 1 a.m. and on Wednesday at midnight. (Until 9 p.m.)

8:00 (44) The American Experience: *Jubilee Singers: Sacrifice and Glory.* On tour with a vocal group from Fisk University, in Nashville. (Until 9 p.m.)

9:00 (2) The American Experience: *Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided,* part two. To be repeated tonight at 1 and 4 a.m. on Channel 44, and on Friday, February 23 at 2 a.m. (Until 11 p.m.)

9:00 (44) Mystery: *Inspector Morse: Daughters of Cain.* And still the college-town killing spree goes on. You don't get homicide stats this high in the Bronx. An Oxford prof is offed and his relationship with a London hooker is revealed. And there's something about drugs. To be repeated on Wednesday at 3 a.m. on Channel 2. (Until 10:30 p.m.)

1:00 and 4:00 a.m. (44) The American Experience: *Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided,* part two. Repeated from this evening at 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

8:00 (2) Nova: *Lincoln's Secret Weapon.* If you're intent on overdosing on the Lincoln administration, check out this underwater mission to the remains of the *Monitor* off Cape Hatteras. To be repeated on Thursday at midnight. (Until 9 p.m.)

8:00 (44) Mystery: *The Last Morse.* Repeated from Sunday at 11 p.m.

9:00 (2) The American Experience: *Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided,* part three. The conclusion. To be repeated tonight at 1 and 4 a.m. on Channel 44, and on February 23 at 4 a.m. (Until 11 p.m.)

9:00 (44) Mystery: *Inspector Morse: The Wench Is Dead.* Repeated from Thursday at 1 a.m.

Midnight (2) Secrets of the Pharaohs: *Lost City of the Pyramids.* Repeated from Tuesday at 8 p.m.

1:00 a.m. (2) Mystery: *Inspector Morse: Death Is Now My Neighbor.* Repeated from Monday at 9 p.m.

1:00 and 4:00 a.m. (44) The American Experience: *Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided,* part three. Repeated from this evening at 9 p.m.

3:00 a.m. (2) Mystery: *Inspector Morse: Daughters of Cain.* Repeated from Tuesday at 9 p.m.

4:30 a.m. (2) Mystery: *The Last Morse.* Repeated from Sunday at 11 p.m.

THURSDAY

9:00 (2) Mystery: *Inspector Morse: The Remorseful Day.* The *real* final Inspector Morse episode finds John Thaw's character ill and off the beat with sidekick Sergeant Lewis (Kevin Whately) on the case of a multiple murderer. But even from his bed of pain, Morse gets his hand in. To be repeated tonight at 1 and 4 a.m. on Channel 44. (Until 11 p.m.)

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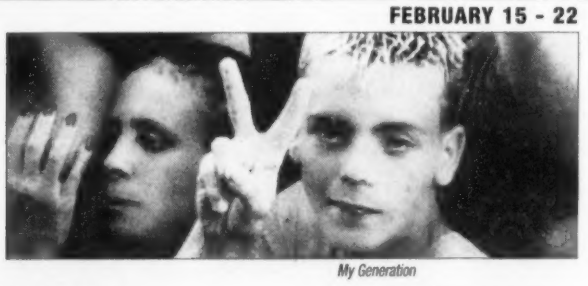

My Generation

GUITARS AND FILM

Total Balalaika Show
Thurs., Feb. 15, at 6pm
Insane concert film pairs Finnish rock band Leningrad Cowboys with the100-member Russian Red Army Chorus and Dance Ensemble. From Finnish Cult fave Aki Kaurismak

My Generation
Thurs., Feb. 15, at 7:30pm
Two-time Oscar-winning Barbara Kopple will introduce and discuss her latest documentary, which compares the 1990s Woodstock concerts to the1969 original. With the music of Metallica, Rage Against the Machine and others, plus never-before-seen footage from the original concert. Sponsored by FNX Radio.

Tom Verlaine: Music for Film
Fri., Feb. 16, at 8pm.
Tom Verlaine, ex-guitarist for seminal art-punk band Television, performs live original scores for classic avant-garde short films by Man Ray, Fernand Leger and others.

Bittersweet Motel
Wed., Feb. 21, at 8pm
Rockumentary about Canadian band Barenaked Ladies, directed by longtime fan Jason Priestly

Meeting People Is Easy
Thurs., Feb. 22, at 8 p.m.
Rockumentary about the unlikely pop success story of the alternative band Radiohead. Sponsored by FNX Radio

For more info:
Call (617) 369-3770
or visit www.mfa.org/film

BOSTON FILM ARTIST PRESENT

Ennis' Gift: A Film About Learning Differences
Sat., Feb. 17, at noon
Inspiring documentary about celebrities who overcame learning differences, introduced by director Joshua Seftel. Followed by discussion.

The Same Side of Rejection Street
Sat., Feb. 17, at 3:45p.m.
Original and entertaining drama about vagrant man and ex-telemarketer wandering the streets together. Introduced by director S.G. Collins.

ENGAGEMENTS

Under the Sun
Sat., Feb. 17, at 1:20 p.m.
Set in rural Sweden in 1956, this gorgeous film is about two friends fighting over an irresistible woman who responds to a personal ad.

Get two tickets for the price of one for any Guitars and Film program (except Tom Verlaine: Music for Film) by presenting this ad (no copies) to the MFA Box Office."

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film listings

Unless otherwise noted, all film listings this week are for Friday February 16 through Thursday February 22. Film times often change with little notice, so please call the theater before heading out. Complete film-schedule information is always available on the *Boston Phoenix* Web site at http://www.bostonphoenix.com/

boston

■ **ALLSTON CINEMA** (277-2140), 214 Harvard Ave.
Please call for times.
Valentine
Head Over Heels
The Gift
Miss Congeniality

■ **CHERI** (536-2870), 50 Dalton St.
Down to Earth: 1, 4, 7:30, 10:30
Thirteen Days: 12:30, 3:30, 7, 10
Save the Last Dance: 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 10:15
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: noon, 3, 6:45, 9:45

■ **COPLEY PLACE** (266-1300), 100 Huntington Ave.
No shows before noon Sun.
Sweet November: 10:50 a.m., 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:30
Recess: School's Out: 10:40 a.m., 1, 3:10, 6, 9
Hannibal: 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 3, 4, 6:10, 7, 9:10, 10:10
Saving Silverman: 12:20, 2:40, 4:55, 7:15, 9:30
Head over Heels: 1:50, 7:30
Valentine: 11:10 a.m., 4:20, 10:20
The Wedding Planner: 11:20 a.m., 2:10, 5, 7:35, 10:15
What Women Want: 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40
Finding Forrester: 12:50, 3:50, 6:55
Traffic: noon, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45
Cast Away: 12:10, 3:30, 6:45, 10
Shadow of the Vampire: 9:55

■ **FENWAY** (424-6266), 201 Brookline Ave.
Sweet November: 1, 4, 7:30, 10:20
Recess: School's Out: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9
Hannibal: 1:45, 3, 4:45, 6:30, 8, 9:30; Fri.-Sat., 11:30, 12:30 a.m.; Sat.-Mon., noon; Sun.-Mon., 11; Tues.-Thurs., 10:45
Saving Silverman: 2:15, 4:40, 7, 9:15; Fri.-Sat., 11:45; Sat.-Mon., noon
Valentine: 10; Fri.-Sat., 12:15 a.m.
The Wedding Planner: 4:30, 7:20, 9:40
Snatch: 1:20, 3:45, 6:45, 9:10; Fri.-Sat., 11:45
The Pledge: 3:40; Fri.-Mon., Wed.-Thurs., 7; Sat., 1; Sun.-Mon., 12:30
Traffic: Fri.-Mon., 3:20, 7:15; Fri.-Sat., 11; Sat.-Mon., noon; Sun.-Mon., 10:45; Tues.-Thurs., 2, 5:15, 8:30
O Brother, Where Art Thou?: 1:45, 4:45, 7:20; Fri.-Mon., 10:30; Tues.-Thurs., 10
Cast Away: 1:30, 4:45, 8:15; Fri.-Sat., 11:30
Chocolat: 12:45, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15; Fri.-Sat., 12:15 a.m.
Finding Forrester: 12:45, 4, 10; Fri.-Mon., Wed.-Thurs., 7
"Boston Underground Film Festival Shorts": Tues., 7:30
Urban Ghost Story: Thurs., 7:30
I Stand Alone: Thurs., 9:30
Mutant Aliens and **Can't Drag Race with Jesus:** Thurs., 10

■ **MUSEUM OF SCIENCE**, Omni Theatre (723-2500), Science Park, Boston. Tickets $7.50, $5.50 for ages 3-11 and seniors; Tues.-Wed. at 7 p.m. or later, $5, $3 for ages 3-11 and seniors.
Please call for times.
Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure
T-REX: Back to the Cretaceous
Mysteries of Egypt

■ **NICKELODEON** (424-1500), 606 Comm. Ave.
Almost Famous: 1:15, 4, 6:45, 9
Malena: 4:30, 9:40
State and Main: 2, 4:15, 7:15, 9:30
The Gift: 1:45, 7:10
Quills: 1, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15
You Can Count on Me: 1:30, 4:45, 7, 9:20

brookline

■ **CHESTNUT HILL** (277-2500), Rte. 9 and Hammond St.
Recess: School's Out: noon, 1:50, 3:40, 5:30, 7:15, 9:10
Sweet November: 12:15, 2:35, 5, 7:30, 10
Saving Silverman: 1:40, 4:15, 7:10, 9:20
The Wedding Planner: 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 9:35
Traffic: 1:20, 4, 7, 9:50

■ **CIRCLE CINEMA** (566-4040), Cleveland Circle.
Please call for times.
Down to Earth
Hannibal
Snatch
Thirteen Days
Save the Last Dance

■ **COOLIDGE CORNER** (734-2500), 290 Harvard St.
Shadow of the Vampire: Fri., 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 9:45; Sat., 1, 3:15, 5:15, 7:45, 9:45; Mon., 3:15, 5:15, 7:45, 9:45; Tues., 3:15, 7:45, 9:45; Wed., 3:15, 5, 10; Thurs., 3:15, 5:15, 7:45, 9:45
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10; Sat.-Sun., Tues.-Thurs., noon
"Video Godard": Fri.-Sun., 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
Lickerish Quartet: Fri.-Sat., midnight
Ashes of Time: Fri.-Sat., 12:15 a.m.
"SF26: 24-Hour Sci-Fi Film Marathon": Sun., noon
The Wizard of Oz: Tues.-Thurs., 12:15
Experimenting Women: Wed., 7:30

cambridge

■ **BRATTLE** (876-6837), 40 Brattle St., Harvard Sq.
"Bugs Bunny Film Festival": 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10

■ **FRESH POND MALL** (661-2900), 168 Alewife Brook Parkway
Sweet November: 1:15, 4:25, 7:30, 10:30
Recess: The Movie: 11:50 a.m., 2, 4, 7, 9:10
Down to Earth: 12:40, 3, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10
Hannibal: 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 2:30, 3:30, 6:30, 7:20, 9:30, 10:20
Saving Silverman: 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10
Finding Forrester: 3:40, 9:20
The Wedding Planner: 11:40 a.m., 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
Save the Last Dance: 1:20, 4:20, 7:15, 10:15
Cast Away: 12:10, 3:20, 6:40, 9:50
The Gift: 1, 6:50

■ **HARVARD SQUARE** (864-4580), 10 Church St.
No shows after 10:30 Fri., Sun.-Thurs.
Before Night Falls: 12:50, 4, 7, 10, 12:40 a.m.
O Brother, Where Art Thou?: 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 10:20, 12:30 a.m.
Traffic: 12:20, 1:10, 3:30, 4:30, 6:40, 7:50, 9:50, 11:30
Chocolat: 12:40, 3:50, 6:30, 9:15
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: midnight

■ **KENDALL SQUARE CINEMA** (494-9800), One Kendall Sq.
No shows before 1:30 Fri., Tues.-Thurs.
Chunhyang: 1:10, 3:50, 6:30, 9:20
Shadow of the Vampire: 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30
Snatch: 11:50 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
The House of Mirth: 11:55 a.m., 3:10, 9:35; Fri.-Wed., 6:20
Thirteen Days: 12:30, 3:35, 6:40, 9:40
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: 11:45 a.m., 1, 2:40, 4, 5:30, 7, 8:30, 9:55
State and Main: 12:10, 2:35, 5:10, 10:05; Fri.-Tues., Thurs., 7:40
You Can Count on Me: noon, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10

suburbs

■ **ARLINGTON**, Capitol (781-648-4340), 204 Mass. Ave.
Malena: 11:45 a.m., 1:45, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:45
What Women Want: 11:50 a.m., 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:05
The Emperor's New Groove: 11:30 a.m., 1:05, 2:40
The Pledge: 4:55, 7:30, 10
Miss Congeniality: 5:30, 7:45, 9:55
Billy Elliot: 12:10, 2:25, 4:35, 7:15, 9:50
Yi Yi: 5:30, 9
102 Dalmatians: 11:25 a.m., 1:20, 3:15
Rugrats in Paris: 11:35 a.m., 1:15, 3

■ **BEVERLY**, Cabot Street Cinema (978-927-3677), 286 Cabot St.
O Brother, Where Art Thou?: Fri.-Sat., Mon.-Tues., 5:30, 8; Sat., 2
Into the Arms of Strangers: Wed.-Thurs., 5:30, 8; Wed., 2

■ **BRAINTREE**, General Cinema (781-848-1070), South Shore Plaza
Down to Earth: 12:40, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 9:50
Sweet November: 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05
Recess: School's Out: 12:30, 2:40, 4:40, 6:45, 9
Hannibal: 1, 4, 7, 10
Saving Silverman: 12:50, 3:10, 5:15, 7:35, 10
Valentine: 9:30
The Wedding Planner: 1:20, 4:20, 7:15, 9:45
Thirteen Days: 12:30, 3:35, 6:45, 9:45
Save the Last Dance: 1:10, 3:50, 7:05, 9:35
Cast Away: 12:45, 3:45, 6:50, 9:50
Miss Congeniality: 7
The Emperor's New Groove: 1:05, 3, 5

■ **BURLINGTON**, General Cinema I-X (781-229-9200), Middlesex Turnpike, off Rte. 128 Exit 32B
Down to Earth: noon, 2:20, 4:40, 7:30, 9:45
Sweet November: 12:45, 3:30, 7:25, 10:10
Recess: School's Out: 12:30, 2:45, 4:50, 7, 9
Hannibal: 1, 4, 7, 10
The Wedding Planner: 7:10, 9:40; Fri.-Mon., Wed.-Thurs., 12:50, 3:45
Thirteen Days: 12:15, 3:30, 6:55, 10:05
Finding Forrester: 6:50, 9:50; Fri.-Mon., Wed.-Thurs., 12:40, 3:50
Traffic: 12:10, 3:20, 6:45, 9:55
Cast Away: 12:25, 3:40, 7:15, 10:15
The Emperor's New Groove: 12:40, 2:55, 5

■ **DANVERS**, Liberty Tree Mall, Sony Theatres (978-750-9019), 100 Independence Way
Almost Famous: 11:10 a.m., 2:10, 5:20, 8, 10:45
Sweet November: 11:30 a.m., 2:50, 6, 8:50, 9:50
Recess: School's Out: 11 a.m., noon, 1:30, 2:30, 4, 5, 6:30, 7:15, 9, 9:40
Down to Earth: 11:50 a.m., 1, 2:40, 3:30, 5:10, 6:10, 7:30, 8:30, 9:50, 10:50
Hannibal: 11:40 a.m., 12:30, 1:15, 3, 3:45, 4:30, 6:15, 7, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15, 11, noon
Saving Silverman: 12:15, 3:05, 5:40, 8, 10:30
Valentine: 3:35, 9:25, 11:45
Head over Heels: 3:50, 9:20, 11:30
The Wedding Planner: 11:25 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 10
The Gift: 3:20, 9:15, 11:40
Chocolat: 12:45, 4:05, 6:50, 9:55
The Pledge: 12:35, 6:25
Thirteen Days: 11:55 a.m., 6:05
Save the Last Dance: 11:20 a.m., 2, 5:30, 8:20, 10:55
O Brother, Where Art Thou?: 12:20, 3:10, 6:35, 9:05, 11:20
Traffic: 12:10, 3:40, 7:05, 10:20
Cast Away: 12:50, 4:15, 7:25, 10:40
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: 1:45, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25
Finding Forrester: 12:25, 6:20

■ **DEDHAM**, Community Theatre (781-326-1463), 580 High St.
O Brother, Where Art Thou?: 4:45, 6:45, 9; Sat.-Thurs., 12:30, 2:30
Chocolat: 4:30, 7, 9:20; Sat.-Thurs., 1:30

■ **DEDHAM**, Showcase 10 (781-326-4955), 950 Providence St.
Please call for times.
Down to Earth
Recess: School's Out
Sweet November

SECOND CHANCES I: *Chris Rock gets another chance at life in* Down to Earth, *at the Cheri, the Fresh Pond, and the Circle, and in the suburbs.*

Hannibal
Saving Silverman
The Wedding Planner
Save the Last Dance
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
Traffic
Cast Away
The Emperor's New Groove

■ **FRAMINGHAM**, General Cinema (508-628-4400), 22 Flutie Pass, off Worcester Rd., Rte 9
Down to Earth: noon, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45
Sweet November: 1, 4, 7:10, 10:10
Recess: School's Out: noon, 2:15, 4:30, 7, 9:15
Hannibal: 12:30, 1, 3:30, 4, 7, 7:30, 10, 10:30
Saving Silverman: 12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:50, 10:15
Valentine: 10:30
Snatch: 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 9:40
The Pledge: 7:30
The Gift: 10:30
Chocolat: 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
Thirteen Days: 12:15, 3:45, 7, 10:15
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
Traffic: 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 10
Cast Away: 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 10
Miss Congeniality: noon, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50
Finding Forrester: 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:50

■ **HINGHAM**, Loring Hall Cinema (781-749-1400), 65 Main St.
Chocolat: 7, 9:30; Sat.-Mon., 2, 4:30

■ **LEXINGTON**, Flick (781-861-6161), 1794 Mass. Ave.
The Emperor's New Groove: Sat.-Thurs., noon
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: 6:30, 9; Sat.-Thurs., 1:30, 4
Chocolat: 7, 9:30; Sat.-Thurs., 2, 4:30

■ **MAYNARD**, Fine Arts Theatre (978-897-8100), 19-21 Summer St.
Sweet November: Fri.-Mon., 7:05, 9:30; Sat.-Mon., 1:45, 4:15; Tues.-Thurs., 2, 7:30
Hannibal: Fri.-Mon., 7, 9:30; Sat.-Mon., 1:45, 4:15; Tues.-Thurs., 2, 7:30
The Pledge: Fri.-Mon., 7:05, 9:30; Sun.-Mon., 4:15; Tues.-Thurs., 7:30
Miss Congeniality: Sat., 12:45; Sun.-Mon., 1:45; Tues.-Thurs., 2

■ **NATICK**, Sony Theatres (781-237-5840), Rte. 9, opposite Shopper's World
Almost Famous: 1:15, 4:15, 7, 9:40
What Women Want: 1:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
Head over Heels: 7:20, 9:30
O Brother, Where Art Thou?: 1:30, 4, 6:50, 9:20
The Wedding Planner: 2:15, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10
Save the Last Dance: 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10
The Emperor's New Groove: 1, 3, 5

■ **NEWBURYPORT**, Screening Room (978-462-3456), 82 State St.
Quills: Fri., 6; Sat., 3:15, 6; Sun., 1; Mon.-Thurs., 7:30

■ **NEWTON**, West Newton Cinema (964-6060), 1296 Washington St.
No shows before 12:30 Fri., Mon.-Thurs.
Malena: noon, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10
The House of Mirth: 10:50 a.m., 1:40, 5, 8
O Brother, Where Art Thou?: 11:10 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7, 9:15
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: 10:50 a.m., 1:25, 4:05, 6:40, 9:15
Chocolat: 1:25, 4:05, 6:40, 9:15
State and Main: 4:30, 9:15
You Can Count on Me: 2, 7
The Emperor's New Groove: 10:50 a.m., 12:20

■ **QUINCY**, Quincy Cinema (773-5700), 1585 Hancock St.
Please call for times.
Sweet November
Down to Earth
Hannibal
Saving Silverman
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
The Wedding Planner
Traffic
Save the Last Dance

■ **RANDOLPH**, Showcase Cinema (781-963-5600), Rte. 139.
Please call for times.
Down to Earth
Recess: School's Out
Sweet November
Hannibal
Saving Silverman
Valentine
The Wedding Planner
Snatch
Chocolat
The Pledge
Double Take: Fri.-Sat.
Save the Last Dance
Traffic
Cast Away
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
The Emperor's New Groove

■ **REVERE**, Showcase Cinema (781-286-1660), Rte. 1 and Squire Rd.
Please call for times.
Sweet November
Recess: School's Out
Down to Earth
Hannibal
Saving Silverman
Valentine
The Wedding Planner
Sugar & Spice
Snatch
Chocolat
Double Take
Save the Last Dance
Thirteen Days
Traffic
Cast Away
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
The Emperor's New Groove

■ **SALEM**, Museum Place Cinemas (978-744-3700), Church St. at East India Sq.
No shows before 4 Fri.
The Family Man: 4, 6:45, 9:20
102 Dalmatians: 12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40
Dude, Where's My Car?: 4:45, 7
Vertical Limit: 9
Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas: 1:30
Rugrats in Paris: 1, 2:50

■ **SOMERVILLE**, Sony Theatres (628-7000), 35 Middlesex Ave., Assembly Sq. Mall
Sweet November: 12:35, 4, 7:10, 9:55
Recess: School's Out: noon, 2, 4:10, 7, 9:10
Down to Earth: 12:15, 2:25, 5:10, 8:10, 10:35
Saving Silverman: 1:20, 3:35, 5:45, 8:25, 10:40
Hannibal: 12:25, 1:30, 3:20, 4:40, 6:35, 7:35, 9:25, 10:25
Valentine: 12:45, 2:50, 5:30, 8, 10:30
The Wedding Planner: 1:40, 4:50, 7:40, 10:10
The Gift: 3:50, 9:50
Finding Forrester: 1, 6:50
Save the Last Dance: 1:10, 4:20, 7:30, 10
Traffic: 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40
Cast Away: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

■ **SOMERVILLE THEATRE** (625-5700), 55 Davis Sq.
Almost Famous: 11:55 a.m., 2:20, 5, 7:35, 10:05
Dancer in the Dark: 4:30, 7:05, 9:55
The Pledge: noon, 2:30, 4:55, 7:30, 10
The Emperor's New Groove: 11:25 a.m., 1:05, 2:45
Billy Elliot: 12:10, 2:25, 4:35, 7:15, 9:50
Best in Show: Fri., Sun.-Thurs., 11:30 a.m., 1:25, 3:20, 5:10, 7:10, 9:45

■ **WALTHAM**, Embassy Cinema (781-893-2500), 16 Pine St.
No shows before 3 Tues.-Thurs.
Requiem for a Dream: 7:20, 9:40
Before Night Falls: 2:30, 5:30, 8:30
Shadow of the Vampire: 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20
Finding Forrester: 1:15, 4:15
Traffic: 1:50, 5, 8:15
Cast Away: 1:40, 4:40, 7:45
Billy Elliot: 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30

■ **WEYMOUTH**, Cameo Theater 1 & 2 (781-335-2777), Columbia Sq., South Weymouth
102 Dalmatians: 7:30, 9:40; Sat.-Thurs., 1, 3:15, 5:30
The Family Man: 7, 9:30
Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas: Sat.-Thurs., 4:45
Rugrats in Paris: Sat.-Thurs., 12:45, 2:45

■ **WOBURN**, Showcase (781-933-5138), Main St., Middlesex Canal Park
Please call for times.
Down to Earth
Recess: School's Out
Sweet November
Chocolat
The Emperor's New Groove
Saving Silverman
Hannibal
Valentine: Fri.-Sat.
Head over Heels
Sugar & Spice
The Wedding Planner
Snatch: Fri.-Sat.
Save the Last Dance
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
O Brother, Where Art Thou?
Traffic
Cast Away

film specials

■ **BOSTON UNIVERSITY** (353-2948), College of Communication, 640 Comm. Ave., Boston. Free.
— **What's Happening? The Beatles in the USA** (1964) and **Gimme Shelter** (1970), both directed by Albert & David Maysles, screen Fri., 7:30.

■ **FRENCH LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER** (266-4351), 53 Marlborough St., Boston. $3 donation.
— **Maria Chapdelaine** (1983), directed by Gilles Carle, screens Fri., 8.

■ **HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE** (495-4700), Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge. Tickets $6, $5 for seniors and students, free for ages 8 and under.
— "Chinese Cinema and Society in Transformation": **Postman** (1995), directed by He Jianjun, screens Fri., 7. **Raincloud over Wushan** (1996), directed by Zhang Ming, screens Fri., 9. **Xiao Wu** (1997), directed by Jia Zhangke, screens Sat., 7. **Sons** (1996), directed by Zhang Yuan, screens Sat., 9.
— **Mournful Indifference** (1987), directed by Aleksandr Sokurov, screens Sun., 7; Wed., 9. **The Wonderful, Horrible Life of Leni Riefenstahl** (1993), directed by Ray Muller, screens Tues., 8:30. **Germany Year Zero** (1947), directed by Roberto Rossellini, screens Wed., 7. **The Tarnished Angels** (1958), directed by Douglas Sirk, screens Thurs., 7.

■ **JORGE HERNÁNDEZ CULTURAL CENTER** (867-9191), 85 West Newton St., Boston. Tickets $8 except where noted.
— **"Boston Underground Film Festival Music Shorts"** screens Wed., 7:30. Tickets $10. **Benjamin Smoke** (2000), directed by Jem Cohen, screens Wed., 9:45.

■ **MOBIUS** (524-7416), 354 Congress St., Boston. Tickets $5-$6.
— **"Straight from the Source: Youth Perspectives"** screens Fri.-Sat., 8. **"Kibbles & Bits"** screens Tues., 7.

■ **MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS** (267-9300, ext. 300), 465 Huntington Ave., Boston. Tickets $7, $6 for students and seniors unless otherwise noted.
— "Guitars and Film": **"Tom Verlaine: Music for Film"** screens Fri., 8. **Don't Look Back** (1967), directed by D.A. Pennebaker, screens Thurs., 6.
— **Ennis' Gift** (2000), directed by Joshua Seftel, screens Sat., noon. **Under the Sun** (1999), directed by Colin Nutley, screens Sat., 1:20. **The Same Side of Rejection Street** (2000), directed by S.G. Collins, screens Sat., 3:45.

■ **SOUTH BOSTON BRANCH LIBRARY** (268-0180), 646 East Broadway, South Boston. Free.
— **Good News** (1947), directed by Charles Walters, screens Thurs., 6.

SECOND CHANCES II: *Alfred Molina gets another chance at life (with Carrie-Anne Moss) in* Chocolat, *at the Fenway, the Harvard Square, and the West Newton, and in the suburbs.*

film strips

A

★★★ALMOST FAMOUS (2000). Cameron Crowe's semi-autobiographical film decribes his experiences as probably the youngest rock critic ever, a 15-year-old wunderkind covering the likes of Led Zeppelin and the Who. With legendary rock critic Lester Bangs (Philip Seymour Hoffman, as usual stealing the show), our hero, here called William (and played by impressive newcomer Patrick Fugit), gets a *Rolling Stone* assignment to cover Stillwater's "Almost Famous" tour. The mythical band sound like a pallid heavy-metal knockoff, and the tentative backstage triangle involving William, lead-guitarist Russell Hammond (Billy Crudup), and superstar groupie Penny Lane (Kate Hudson, who looks like her mother, Goldie Hawn, of the same period) seems tentative. What does come across, however, is William's conviction that the music and the feelings they arouse matter enough to make writing about it his life. At least as far as its passion is concerned, *Almost Famous* is almost perfect. *Nickelodeon, Somerville Theatre.*

B

★★★1/2 BEFORE NIGHT FALLS (2000). Julian Schnabel, whose overlooked first film, *Basquiat*, roughly captured the torment and vision of the tragic '80s painter of the title, made this true story of Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas, who's played with utter conviction and disarming playfulness by Spanish actor Javier Bardem. Arenas had the triple misfortune to be a lover of beauty, a lover of freedom, and a lover of men in Castro's Cuba. Born into abject rural poverty and recognized early on as one of the country's best writers, he was passed over nonetheless by the powers that be and through the '60s and '70s got deeper into trouble with the authorities for his uncompromising prose, lifestyle, and attitude. He smuggled manuscripts out and won awards in other countries, but in Cuba he was hounded and imprisoned. He escaped to the US in the 1980 Mariel boatlift; 10 years later he died in poverty and obscurity, a victim of AIDS. Schnabel and Bardem capture their hero's indomitable spirit and imagination through Arenas's own words, startling images, and a layered free-associative narrative that imitates the workings of memory and experience. *Night* re-creates and vindicates not just this tragic Cuban writer's soul but everyone's. *Harvard Square.*

★★★BEST IN SHOW (2000). As in *Spinal Tap* (directed by Rob Reiner) and *Waiting for Guffman*, Christopher Guest's previous puncturings of our species's vanities and absurdities, there's a fine line between cleverness and contempt. In the end, heart wins out over ridicule. The canines come from all over the country to take the spotlight at Philadelphia's fictitious Mayflower Dog Show, but the real stories, those of the flawed and far from pedigreed masters, are backstage and episodic. Among the duds are Parker Posey and Michael Hitchcock as the yuppie Swans and Jennifer Coolidge as a bland bombshell who's married, Anna Nicole Smith–style, to a moribund millionaire. More entertaining are John Michael Higgins and Michael McKean as a campy gay couple, Guest himself as a salt-of-the-earth type, and Catherine O'Hara and co-writer Eugene Levy as a couple as down-to-earth as their sawed-off Norwich terrier. Unlike *Guffman, Best in Show* never really comes together — thank God, then, or perhaps dog, for Fred Willard, who appears midway through as an irrepressible and triumphantly ignorant TV commentator. *Somerville Theatre, suburbs.*

★★★BILLY ELLIOT (2000). Stephen Daldry's film is an honest look at an 11-year-old who fights his way from the coal-smudged alleys of the north of England to an audition at the Royal Ballet School. The life of Billy Elliot (Jamie Bell) is bleak and comfortless, and his family — robbed of their mother at the beginning of the film — sink into poverty as a miners' strike drags into the winter months. When he wanders into a local dancing class taught by the bored and discouraged Mrs. Wilkinson (Julie Walters), it absorbs his pre-adolescent energy and anger better than a punching bag or a trampoline. He doesn't miraculously achieve perfection — his dance is awkward, blustery, flung wildly all over the room, with everything he's ever seen thrown in: ballet, boogie, clogging. It's also instinctively expressive — rough and earnest and beautiful. *Somerville Theatre, Arlington Capitol, suburbs.*

"BUGS, ALL BUGS, AND NOTHING BUT THE BUGS." Old favorites for School Vacation Week: "What's Up, Doc?", "What's Opera, Doc?", "Rabbit of Seville," "Rabbit Hood," "Ali Baba Bunny," "Ballet Box Bunny," "Knighty Knight Bugs," and, of course, "Carrotblanca." *Brattle.*

"BUGS BUNNY MEETS TASMANIAN DEVIL: A LOONEY TUNES REVUE." "For Sentimental Reasons" (Pepe Le Pew); "Fast and Furry-ous," "Feed the Kitty," and "One Froggy Evening" (all Road Runner); "Bill of Hare," "Bedevilled Rabbit," and "Devil May Hare" (Bugs and the Devil) — and much more. *Brattle.*

C

★★★CAST AWAY (2000). After Fed Ex executive Chuck Noland's plane crashes, he's left to eke out a life on a tiny rock in the middle of the South Pacific for four years, with only the pocket watch his fiancée, Kelly (Helen Hunt), had given him and a volleyball named Wilson for company. Tom Hanks is brilliant, bringing reserves of irony, wit, and pathos to his ordeal and showing a Chaplinesque knack for physical comedy. And director Robert Zemeckis displays cinematic subtlety in outlining Chuck's progress from time-obsessed workaholic to bereft primitive to discoverer of such milestones in civilization as edged tools, fire, and religious fetishism. Insect- and bacteria-free and tropically serene, the island hones Chuck into a slim, tanned-and-toned demi-god who looks 10 years younger than when he left. By contrast, the civilization he leaves behind seems phony, like a mediocre movie. That's the film's major failing; none of Chuck's mooning over Kelly matches his anguish when he's parted from his true friend, Wilson the volleyball. *Copley Place, Fenway, Fresh Pond, suburbs.*

★★CHOCOLAT (2000). Unlike real chocolate, which is not too

Continued on page 28

flicks in a flash

Compiled by Mike Miliard

legend

rave review, a gem;

mixed response, crap shoot;

turkey

Variety's Top 10 for the weekend ending 2/11/01	BOSTON PHOENIX	BOSTON GLOBE	BOSTON HERALD	NY TIMES	PEOPLE	TIME	NEWSWK	NEW YORKER	VILLAGE VOICE	LA TIMES	NEW YORK
1 Hannibal	🎲	★	🎲	🎲	👍	★	🎲		👍	👍	🎲
2 The Wedding Planner	🎲	🎲	🎲	🎲					👍	🎲	
3 Saving Silverman	👍	👍	🎲	🎲						🎲	
4 Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	🎲	★	★
5 Cast Away	★	★	★	★	🎲	★	🎲	★	🎲	👍	🎲
6 Save the Last Dance	🎲	🎲	🎲	🎲	👍			★	🎲	★	
7 Traffic	★	★	★	★	★	🎲		★	★	🎲	★
8 Valentine	👍	👍	🎲	👍						★	
9 Chocolat	🎲	★	★	🎲	👍	👍	★			★	
10 O Brother, Where Art Thou?	★	★	★	★	★	★			🎲	★	

★★★★	Superb
★★★	Good
★★	Middling
★	Bearable
●	A turkey

when was the last time you were surprised at the movies?

february 23 1
LAST RESORT
Abandoned by her fiancé at the airport, a young Russian woman – with child in tow – applies for asylum in England. Forced to live in a faded seaside resort, the woman finds her dreams of a better life slipping away – until an unusual romance gives her hope. Lyrical and deeply emotional, *The Last Resort* is a triumph for director Pawel Pawlikowski.
"Crackles with human sympathy. One of the year's ten best." *Film Comment*

march 9 2
WHEN BRENDAN MET TRUDY
Peter McDonald (*I Went Down*) and Flora Montgomery make an insanely appealing and hilariously mismatched couple in this fast and fresh comedy for movie maniacs. Kieron Walsh directs from a riotously funny script by Roddy Doyle (*The Snapper, The Commitments*).
"Very funny, with bright performances." *Screen International*

march 23 3
TOO MUCH SLEEP
When an underachieving security guard loses his gun in a scam involving a beautiful girl, he's forced to enlist the aid of his quiet little town's resident expert on the "criminal underworld." A funny, charming, and wholly original first film by David Maquiling.
"An understated gem." *Village Voice*

april 6 4
THE DAY I BECAME A WOMAN
Marziyeh Meshkini makes an extraordinary directorial debut in a film that explores what it means to be a woman in modern Iran. Alternately funny, surreal, and heartbreaking, *The Day I Became a Woman* was written by Mohsen Makhmalbaf, one of the masters of the new Iranian cinema.
"Essential viewing." *Chicago Tribune*

april 20 5
THE LOW DOWN
In his first feature, acclaimed video director Jamie Thraves tells the story of an intense young man torn between committing to the woman of his dreams – and doing nothing. Featuring a memorable performance by Aidan Gillen (star of the British *Queer as Folk*), *The Low Down* is a bracingly honest look at modern relationships.
"Fresh, funny, new-wavy and wistful. It's quite a delight." *Time Out*

may 4 6
EUREKA
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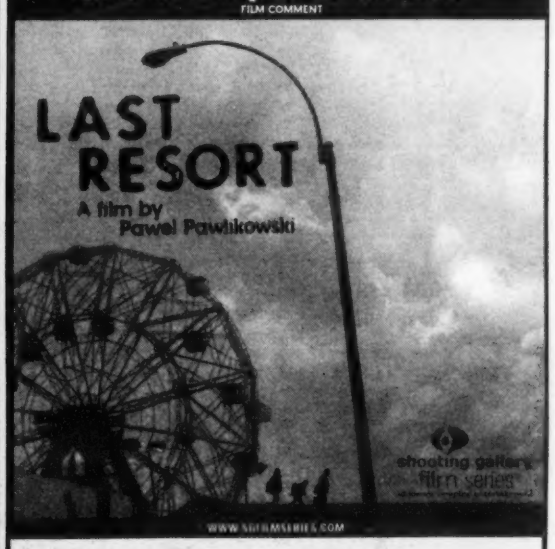

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sweet, Lasse Hallström's adaptation of the Joanne Harris novel is all confection. A north wind and a fairy-tale narrator whisk Vianne (Juliette Binoche, here a Gallic Betty Crocker) and her young daughter Anouk (a coltish Victoire Thivisol) into the chilly village of Lansquenet, where the chocolaterie Vianne opens sorely tempts the uptight inhabitants, especially since Lent is just beginning. The stern Comte de Reynaud (a cartoonish Alfred Molina) tries to unite the rest of the town against the seductive interloper, but you know he's just dying to bite into her chocolate-covered "nipples of Venus." Although Johnny Depp shows up midway as a Irish-brogued "river rat" to stir up other appetites, the most *Chocolat* will inspire is a trip to the concession stand. Oh and despite the title, this is an English-language film. *Fenway, Harvard Square, West Newton, suburbs.*

★★★CHUNHYANG (2000). Korean director Im Kwon Taek's period piece draws on pansori, traditional Korean sung storytelling, a stage performance of which not only narrates this legendary 18th-century love story but periodically interrupts it (the singer, Cho Sang Hyun, is a vocal prodigy reminiscent of Janis Joplin and Pavarotti). Strange though the form might be, the story is an old one. Teenage Mongryong (Choseung Woo), the spoiled and ambitious son of the provincial governor, falls for the beautiful Chunhyang (Lee Hyo Jung), a courtesan's daughter with an independent spirit. She resists, he persists, and they get married — secretly, like Romeo and Juliet, because Mongryong is afraid of disgrace and his father's disapproval. His dad is promoted, the family moves to the capital, and Mongryong tells Chunhyang to be faithful and wait. Easier said than done when the brutal new governor takes a fancy to her charms. At this point *Chunhyang* takes a tentative stab at such anachronisms as women's rights, but the exuberant performances and the film's austere and erotic beauty are what make it a satisfying mix of the alien and the familiar. *Kendall Square, suburbs.*

★★★CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON (2000). Ang Lee has made a film of such delicacy and decorousness that also offers heart-stopping action sequences — even if you're a fan of Hollywood action spectacles, you've never seen sequences like the ones here, which literally take flight. Lee has inspired some career-best work in his team of Asian legends, including charismatic superstars Chow Yun Fat and Michelle Yeoh, pioneering 1960s Hong Kong martial-arts star Cheng Pei Pei, cinematographer Peter Pau, and fight choreographer Yuen Wo-Ping. The ostensible main characters — Giang Hu warrior-knights Li Mu Bai (Chow) and Yu Shu Lien (Yeoh), take a back seat to the story of Jen Yu (Zhang Ziyi), a governor's daughter who longs to be a Giang Hu warrior but is engaged to marry another aristocrat. She also longs to be reunited with her secret lover, a swashbuckling desert bandit called Dark Cloud (Chang Chen). The combination of Hong Kong–style storytelling, state-of-the-art action, and Lee's own art-film preoccupations doesn't always mesh, much less soar. But when it does, you'll be stunned and overwhelmed. *Cheri, Kendall Square, Coolidge Corner, West Newton, suburbs.*

D

★★★DANCER IN THE DARK (2000). Lars von Trier is a director with a flair for the sublime and the ridiculous, and this musical, the Palme d'Or winner at Cannes, is both. Trier shoots with handheld digital cameras in a washed-out parody of Dogma 95 purity, an in-your-face assault of wobbly close-ups invoking more vertigo than verisimilitude. And the reality he records owes more to the corniest conventions of Hollywood tearjerkers than to any slice of life. Czech immigrant and single mother Selma (former Sugarcube and deserving Cannes Best Actress Björk, who's also responsible for the six production numbers) works in a sheet-metal factory in 1964 Washington state; she's going blind from a congenital disorder, and if she can't save up the money for his operation, her son, Gene, will suffer the same fate. When her financially strapped landlord (David Morse), who's also the local sheriff, "borrows" her nest egg, tragedy ensues. This is the gritty real world from which the musical imagination of Selma creates solipsistic song-and-dance numbers. With each downward step in her decline, another uncanny musical number emerges, as she turns her oppressive surroundings into liberating music. Trier stacks the legal deck (he seems to have been inspired by Grace Kelly's ordeal in *Dial M for Murder*), but before it's over *Dancer* does illuminate Selma's halting steps in the darkness with glints of genius and joy. *Somerville Theatre.*

★★★★DON'T LOOK BACK (1967). Bob Dylan was 23 years old when D.A. Pennebaker (*Monterey Pop, The War Room*) accompanied him and his entourage on a 1965 tour of England and made this legendary, shaky, black-and-white, "home movie" vérité. It remains a revelation, with Dylan being bratty,

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Bring It On

★★1/2 BRING IT ON (Universal). Torrance (Kirsten Dunst doing the perky-good-girl bit) is voted captain of the Toros' cheerleading squad, whereupon she promises to bring home a sixth national championship. Everything is rosy until she discovers that her team's riffs have been lifted from the Clovers, an all-sistah squad from East Compton who've never had enough green to make it to the big tumble. To redeem the Toros' name, Torrance hires a choreographer and recruits a punked-out gymnast (Eliza Dushku of *Buffy* fame). Peyton Reed's lite teen-angst comedy is at its sassy best when it adheres to its ESPN2-inspired roots. And the high-kicking routines and rap chants ("That's all right, that's okay, you're gonna pump our gas someday") are infectious, especially at the national championships, when the inner-city Clovers and the Polly Purebreds from San Diego "bring it" cheer-to-cheer.

★★ THE ADVENTURES OF ROCKY AND BULLWINKLE (Universal). This live-action/animation retread of Jay Ward's beloved cartoon exists on the border between the tenuously real and the purely imaginary. Rocky the flying squirrel and Bullwinkle the moose are pressed back into service when their perennial adversaries — criminal mastermind Fearless Leader and bungling spies Boris Badenov and Natasha Fatale — launch a cable TV network that turns viewers into zombies. The bulk of the narrative takes place in a live-action landscape in which the three villains morph into humans while Rocky and Bullwinkle become 3-D Industrial Light & Magic animations. The tone is close to that of the original, but the running jokes about how much/how little America has changed since 1964 are perfunctory and don't get below the surface. Robert De Niro has a good time as Fearless Leader, and ILM doesn't do too badly with Rocky and Bullwinkle, but the most welcome presence in the film is Jonathan Winters, who brings more than a touch of 1964 to his successive cameos.

★★ WOMAN ON TOP (Fox). Venezuelan director Fina Torres's film is as much about culinary art as sexual positions, and it has as its main ingredient the spicy and succulent Penelope Cruz as her hotblooded heroine, Isabella, whose unsurpassed gift for cooking lands her in the kitchen of macho husband Toninho's vastly successful restaurant, where she does all the work and gets none of the credit. When she discovers Toninho on top of another woman, Isabella moves to San Francisco to live with her drag-queen friend Monica (Harold Perrineau Jr.), and eventually winds up starring on her own hit cooking show. As if all these flaky characters and unlikely plot twists weren't enough, Torres tosses in a healthy dollop of black magic, polytheistic mumbo-jumbo, and magical realism. The finished dish is overstocked and half-baked, an attempt to imitate Pedro Almodóvar or *Like Water for Chocolate* that falls as flat as a pancake.

★1/2 GET CARTER (Warner). Sylvester Stallone trying to fill the thespian shoes of two-time Oscar winner Michael Caine? That's what this remake of the mod 1971 British noir is all about. Caine even gives it credibility by lending his mug to a supporting role. The setting has been transposed to cyber-hip Seattle, where Sly's Jack Carter, a heavy for the Vegas mob who's returned home for the funeral of his brother, suspects the car accident was really foul play and starts poking around. Caught up in the gnashing revenge mix: Miranda Richardson as the widow in mourning, Rachael Leigh Cook as her punked-out daughter, Mickey Rourke as the porn king, Alan Cumming as the flamboyant start-up geek, and Caine as the avuncular overseer with a hidden agenda. The aged Stallone, robotic and thuggish, is almost admirable, and Stephen Kay's direction is visually slick, but the insipid dialogue and inane plot development do him in.

★ BLESS THE CHILD (Paramount). Chuck Russell's feeble pastiche of supernatural thrillers stars Kim Basinger as Maggie O'Connor, a spinsterish child therapist whose charity is tested when her strung-out sister Jenna (Angela Bettis) pays a visit on Christmas Eve and leaves Maggie with her newborn daughter. Six years later, Cody (Holliston Coleman) is an autistic cutie with the knack for bringing dead pigeons back to life and making plates spin. This doesn't escape the notice of Eric Stark (Rufus Sewell), a part-time celebrity self-help guru and full-time Satanist who enlists his army of trenchcoat-mafia types to kidnap the kid and switch her from Second Coming to Antichrist. Along the way, in addition to goth-ish teens, the film demonizes women who deviate from the ways of maternal nurturing and anyone else who doesn't pack a set of rosary beads. A frighteningly fundamentalist vision of contemporary society that's shamelessly and ineptly manipulative, *Bless the Child* hasn't a prayer.

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taunting the press, and facing down upstart rival Donovan in a hotel room as the two trade songs. There are great filmed performances; there's a wonderful sequence with a teenage fan; and there's the Mother of All Deals, as we watch Dylan's manager, Albert Grossman, work the phones with a slimy booking agent. *Don't Look Back* captures the artistic and commercial birth of modern rock. And it's showing in a new 35mm print. *Museum of Fine Arts.*

DOWN TO EARTH (2001). This remake of *Heaven Can Wait* has Chris Rock as a dead comic who returns as a rich white guy whose wife is plotting to kill him. Regina King, Chazz Palminteri, and Eugene Levy. Chris and Paul Weitz, of *American Pie*, direct. *Cheri, Fresh Pond, Circle, suburbs.*

E

★★★THE EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (2000). This fast-paced Disney animation directed by Mark Dindal recounts the adventures of the young, self-serving emperor Kuzco (David Spade) after his ambitious top adviser, Yzma (Eartha Kitt), botches an assassination attempt and instead turns him into a llama. Kuzco had planned on razing the home of lowly llama herder Pacha (John Goodman) to make way for his summer residence; now, having been set loose in the jungle, he needs Pacha's help to get back into his human body and deal with Yzma. Along the way, the poor llama herder teaches the egoist emperor the value of humanity and, ta-dah, Kuzco comes to the not-so-surprising decision to relocate his summer home and spare Pacha's. There may not be too many interesting plot twists there, but some songs by Sting, some smart one-liners, and some sharp animation all make the film, well, somewhat groovy. *West Newton, Somerville Theatre, Arlington Capitol, suburbs.*

★★★ENNIS' GIFT: A FILM ABOUT LEARNING DIFFERENCES (2000). This documentary from acclaimed Boston Filmmaker Joshua Seftel isn't just a tribute to Bill Cosby's murdered son Ennis — it takes on the learning differences Ennis confronted during his tragically short life. Speaking in Ennis's stead are a variety of subjects — including gold medalist Bruce Jenner, Henry "the Fonz" Winkler, abstract artist Robert Rauschenberg, and fearsome actor (and former stutterer) James Earl Jones — who revisit their childhood traumas. Most credit their accomplishment to a lifetime of feeling different, a challenge many of them now term their "gift." They share one gift: the art of telling a good story. Seftel (who has struggled with learning differences himself) allows them to do so with little interruption — focused intently on its feel-good message, his film consists mainly of talking heads and symbolic journeys down dark hallways, and at times it wraps up a complex issue too neatly. But if, like its subjects, *Ennis' Gift* has some problems with expression, it's still the thought that counts. *Museum of Fine Arts.*

F

★★★FINDING FORRESTER (2000). At first glance this Gus Van Sant film seems like *Good Will Hunting* with a few minor changes. The volatile inner-city (South Bronx this time) prodigy is 16-year-old Jamal Wallace (Rob Brown), who's his high school's star basketball player but also a talented writer; the crusty mentor is reclusive novelist William Forrester (Sean Connery). After a chance encounter, the two become friends of a sort, with Jamal opening the blinds of Forrester's world a crack and Forrester honing Jamal's talent and encouraging him to accept a scholarship to a tony prep school in Manhattan, where Jamal has to deal with the jealousy of the weasly Professor Crawford (F. Murray Abraham) and the attraction of classmate Claire (Anna Paquin). First-timer Rob Brown demonstrates a subtle intensity in his laconic line readings and weighty timing, and though first-time screenwriter Mike Rich doesn't acquit himself well in trying to re-create Forrester's prose, Van Sant manages to make a mainstream movie that's cannily crafted and at times even subversive — a feel-good movie that can also make you feel uneasy. *Copley Place, Fenway, Fresh Pond, suburbs.*

G

★★★GERMANY YEAR ZERO (1947). Roberto Rossellini shot his film amid the rubble of Berlin 1946, and the bombed-out architecture reflects the ruination of the characters. An impoverished, starving German family is squashed into a shared apartment. The deathly sick father, a veteran of World War I, mourns his failure to oppose Hitler. The oldest son, who had fought in Africa and Russia, now hides from the Berlin police. The oldest daughter goes out each night to hustle Americans. That leaves the 15-year-old boy, Edmund, the film's protagonist, to fend for himself, and he runs about the city involved in the black market and falling victim to his ex-teacher, a pedophile Nazi. This Rossellini film is grim and depressing from beginning to end, concluding in a deeply disturbing Bressonian way without even Bresson's last-minute spoonful of Catholicism. But it's shot in a bold, energetic, improvisatory manner and aided by an extraordinary score by Renzo Rossellini. A warning: the German dubbed into Italian can be a bit disconcerting: "Avanti!" says one Berliner. *Harvard Film Archive.*

★★★THE GIFT (2001). Cate Blanchett combines sanctity and eroticism in a radiant performance that redeems Sam Raimi's film from formulaic exercise. Written by Billy Bob Thornton (with Tom Epperson, with whom he wrote the terrific *One False Move*), and featuring a heroine based on Thornton's stalwart, psychic mom, the script is perfunctory, and Raimi's direction is uninspired. But Blanchett brings a spiritual and physical charisma to Annie Wilson, a single mother in rural Georgia with three kids and a gift of prophecy that threatens to shatter her town's sleepy gentility. She advises Valerie Barksdale (Hilary Swank) to dump her brutish, two-timing redneck husband, Donnie (a genuinely scary Keanu Reeves), and she glimpses a gruesome fate for Jessica King (Katie Holmes), the flirty fiancée of local school principal Wayne Collins (Greg Kinnear) — visions that entangle her in the police investigation when King disappears. At this point *The Gift* deteriorates into a standard whodunit with supernatural overtones; the character development doesn't expand much beyond plot device, yet at its best the film transcends mumbo-jumbo and touches on the theme of extraordinary women uncovering the corruption of their community and consequently becoming scapegoats. And Blanchett makes her martyrdom not only believable but sexy as well. *Nickelodeon, Fresh Pond, Allston, suburbs.*

H

★★HANNIBAL (2001). In 1991's *The Silence of the Lambs*, Anthony Hopkins's sly performance as flesh-eating genius Hannibal Lecter made unspeakable evil palatable through understated charm. But Hopkins was on screen for only about 25 minutes; the true subject of the film was rookie FBI agent Clarice Starling, whose encounters with Lecter helped her become a stronger person and a better agent. In *Hannibal*, however, Clarice is the supporting character and the gruesome Lecter is front and center, making only minimal attempts to disguise himself or hide his appetite for brutality — maybe playing for laughs is Hopkins's way of making the character less objectionable. Clarice, however, has stagnated as a character: her FBI career has hit the glass ceiling; she's made powerful enemies at the Justice Department, notably Paul Krendler (played by Ray Liotta as nasty, churlish clown); and she has no hint of a personal life. (Julianne Moore plays her with steely resolve and painfully earned maturity; Jodie Foster is not missed.) Lecter can't corrupt Clarice, so he degrades her in the climax by removing her moral agency and making her a passive spectator to his brain-damaging theater of abomination. Maybe this sequence is director Ridley Scott's way of confronting the audience, as he did last year in *Gladiator*. Maybe it's a Lecter-like statement of perverse artistic integrity; Scott serves up Harris's horrific ending with a brazenness that seems to dare the studio censors or the MPAA to cut it. Maybe it's the capstone to a display of incredible technical skill at depicting gore from the inventively gory director of *Alien* and *Blade Runner*. Or it could just be a Troma flick with more bucks and more-realistic special effects, the most cynical and expensive exploitation movie yet made. *Copley Place, Fenway, Fresh Pond, Circle, suburbs.*

★★HEAD OVER HEELS (2001). After Amanda Pierce (Monica Potter) walks into their apartment and finds a model mounting her

Continued on page 30

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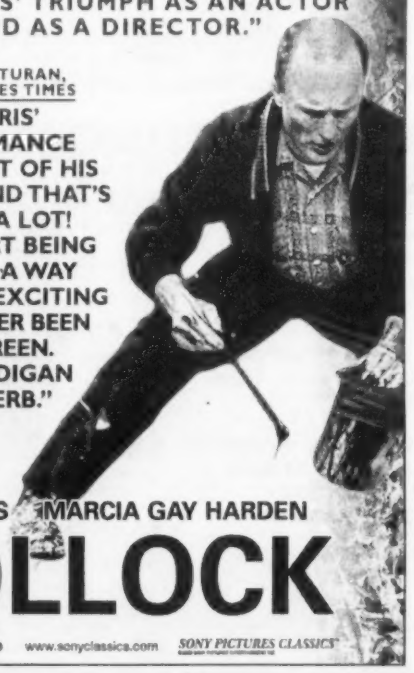

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boyfriend, she moves in with a quartet of her own runway darlings. They run around half-naked, the others dress her up, and they collectively moon over neighbor Jim Winston (Freddie Prinze Jr.), a hot fashion executive, as he sweats through sets of chin-ups across the street. Then Amanda witnesses what looks to be her perfect subject committing a murder and scours New York for evidence that Winston's not the unblemished character he makes himself out to be. The marriage between morose director Mark Waters (*House of Yes*) and madcap producer Robert Simonds (*The Waterboy*) is appropriately manic — think poopoo jokes, stupid models falling on top of each other, and, hmmm, a psychokiller! Of course, the ridiculous run-around ends tidily with sentimental smooches. *Head over Heels* doesn't quite fall flat, but it may be a film you'd rather see with your head in the clouds. *Copley Place, Allston, suburbs.*

★★★THE HOUSE OF MIRTH (2001). British director Terence Davies had never seen *The X-Files* when he made the unlikely decision to cast Gillian Anderson in this version of Edith Wharton's extraordinary 1905 novel about Lily Bart, a woman without independent means who watches her chances to marry a wealthy man evaporate. Lily depends on the kindness of a rich aunt (Eleanor Bron) and favors bestowed by prosperous men like Sim Rosedale (Anthony LaPaglia), a gauche if eligible bachelor, and Gus Trenor (Dan Aykroyd), a lecherous married man. Her heart lies with Lawrence Selden (Eric Stoltz), but he's not rich enough to wed. Still, the natural ease Lawrence and Lily share stirs up enmity in her not-so-angelic cousin, Grace Stepney (Jodhi May), and in the viperish and unhappily married Bertha Dorset (Laura Linney). Shot in dark, mausoleum-worthy tones, Davies's largely faithful adaptation manages to be even icier than Wharton's novel, and though Anderson delivers a fierce, fearless performance, Davies doesn't build a sufficient reservoir of sympathy for this smart woman who makes foolish choices. *Kendall Square, West Newton, suburbs.*

L

★★THE LICKERISH QUARTET (1970). In this softcore entry from Radley Metzger, three decadents who live in a castle — a man, his wife, and a moody son — discover at a carnival show that the daredevil motorcycle rider (Silvana Venturelli) resembles the actress they've been watching obsessively in a 16mm stag movie. She's invited back to the castle, where, as these things go, she seduces each of the trio. It's a decent tease of a film that Metzger strove to make arty with bombastic dialogue: "In the dark. That's where we start and where we finish. In between, it's a game of hide-and-seek." Whatever. *Weekend midnights at the Coolidge Corner.*

M

★★MALENA (2000). Yet one more European coming-of-age film narrated by an oldster gazing back fondly on his/her youth during wartime. This effort from Giuseppe Tornatore (*Cinema Paradiso*) isn't all bad, but the framing conceit, wherein Renato (Giuseppe Sulfaro) the horny, pimply, awfully cute Sicilian protagonist, reminisces about his first and only love by way of a gravelly, wistful voiceover, has itself gotten old. Malena (Monica Bellucci) is a stunning war widow who endures the catcalls of local youth, the catty gossip of matrons, and the catlike prowess of middle-aged men who court her with flowers and extra rations. Renato's obsessive devotion turns him into a shameless voyeur, but his romantic worship of Malena goes sour when she is condemned for doing what poor, lonely women are often forced to do. And Tornatore's romp takes an occasional turn into brutality as the passions of swarthy Catholic men and the jealousies of devout Catholic women are inflamed by the proud Malena, who can't be bothered to notice whether the town loves or hates her. In Italian with English subtitles. *Nickelodeon, West Newton, Arlington Capitol, suburbs.*

★★1/2 MISS CONGENIALITY (2000). With a plot that's as by-the-numbers as possible, this Donald Petrie effort transcends mediocrity (barely) on the basis of two good performances. Sandra Bullock's Gracie Hart is a tomboy FBI agent forced to go undercover at the Miss USA pageant. As a take-no-shit Jersey girl, she's averse to the airhead inanities of pageant life, but after spending time with the other 49 gals, she comes to appreciate their inner goodness and realizes that she too really wants world peace. And Bullock wins the physical-comedy competition — it's something that female leads don't often attempt, but the pph (pratfall-per-hour) ratio here is off the charts. Michael Caine puts in the second fine performance as the foppish beauty consultant charged with Gracie's makeover. Otherwise, except for a few good lines and a *Midnight Cowboy* allusion that will doubtless sail over most audience members' heads, the comedy here is congenial at best. *Allston, Arlington Capitol, suburbs.*

MOURNFUL INDIFFERENCE (1987). See our review of the HFA's "The Urban Cinema: Chinese Cinema and Society in Transformation," on page 3. *Harvard Film Archive.*

O

★★★O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU? (2000). Allegedly based on Homer's *Odyssey*, this film from Ethan and Joel Coen is really is a Depression-era epic dreamed up and set in Coenland, where Ulysses McGill (George Clooney), a Mississippi convict whom everyone calls by his middle name, Everett, escapes from the chain gang with two other prisoners, Pete (John Turturro) and Delmar (Tim Blake Nelson), and sets out in search of his estranged wife (Holly Hunter), who of course is called Penny. Along the way, the escapees meet a blind prophet, a trio of sirens who seem to have a Circe-like ability to turn men into beasts, a Cyclops (a one-eyed Bible salesman right out of Flannery O'Connor's story "Good Country People," played with great relish by John Goodman), and some unusual cows. The Coens and their music coordinator, roots guru T-Bone Burnett, fill each scene with excellent bluegrass, blues, and country songs of the era. Clooney is at his most Gable-esque here, but he's also willing to look ridiculous; Turturro, in his fourth Coen film, makes his underwritten character feel lived-in, and Nelson is a revelation as the child-like Delmar. If you're in the right frame of mind, you may find a treasure here, but not the treasure you seek. *Fenway, Harvard Square, West Newton, suburbs.*

★★1/2 102 DALMATIANS (2000). This sequel to the hit live-action remake from 1996 is a solid-enough Disney kid flick, with its cute puppies, bland romance (Alice Evans and *Horatio Hornblower*'s Ioan Gruffudd), hissable villainess (Glenn Close, reprising her role as Cruella De Vil), and brutal slapstick violence. But what's sure to go over tots' heads is all the gay subtext. Gérard Depardieu as Jean Pierre Le Pelt, a designer of sexually ripe fashions, is clearly modeled after Jean-Paul Gaultier. And Cruella, played by Close with the diva-amp turned up to 11, is bedecked in costumes by Anthony Powell (who also clothed Close as another camp icon, Norma Desmond, in the musical *Sunset Boulevard*) that grow increasingly baroque throughout the film. Not to mention the whole subplot about aversion therapy, where a doctor (named Pavlov, of course) tries to cure animals of interspecies aggression and Cruella of her desire to turn Dalmatians into fur coats, only to have his post-hypnotic suggestions undone by the ringing of that Freudian London landmark, Big Ben. *Arlington Capitol, suburbs.*

P

★★THE PLEDGE (2001). Sean Penn has lightened up a bit in the five years since *The Crossing Guard* with this adaptation of Swiss writer Friedrich Dürrenmatt's sardonic thriller *The Promise*. This time Jack Nicholson is Jerry Black, a Nevada lawman who, upon retiring, buys a gas station by a lake and takes in a battered woman (Robin Wright Penn) and her little daughter. But of course he's got one last case to solve: a Native American drifter (Benicio Del Toro in a cartoonish performance) has been pinned with the nasty murder of a little girl, but Black's not satisfied, and he promised the victim's mother that he would find the killer. Penn relates the passage of time and the hardening of obsession with some grace, but he undermines it with pie-in-the-face close-ups that don't convey interiority so much as cause distraction (the chip in Wright Penn's tooth will drive you crazy). A film about the contrivance of narrative conventions that ends up being merely contrived, *The Pledge* lacks polish. *Fenway, Somerville Theatre, Arlington Capitol, suburbs.*

POSTMAN (1995). See our review of the HFA's "The Urban Cinema: Chinese Cinema and Society in Transformation," on page 3. *Harvard Film Archive.*

Q

★★★QUILLS (2000). Philip Kaufman's screen adaptation of Doug Wright's Off Broadway play about the Marquis de Sade's last days in an asylum remains audacious. Opening up his chamber drama, Wright doesn't stint on the juicy banter and malevolent monologues, but Kaufman chooses too often to underline the obvious. Powdered and wigged like an decrepit fop, Geoffrey Rush brings lip-smacking relish to the marquis, who even under lock and key has enough fancy quills to produce blasphemous accounts of mutilated wives and deflowered nuns. Kate Winslet is the admiring laundress Madeleine, who eats up every naughty word; Michael Caine the cruel doctor who's been dispatched by Napoleon to stop Sade from writing again. He's doomed to fail: whispered from cell to cell, the marquis's final story brings to a boil the simmering brutality in his fellow inmates, and the innocent Madeleine pays the price. As Wright's play argues, true artistic freedom is dangerous and sometimes comes at a painful personal cost. *Nickelodeon, suburbs.*

R

RAINCLOUDS OVER WUSHAN (1996). See our review of the HFA's "The Urban Cinema: Chinese Cinema and Society in Transformation," on page 3. *Harvard Film Archive.*

RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT (2001). See "Trailers," on page 6. *Copley Place, Fenway, Fresh Pond, Chestnut Hill, suburbs.*

★★1/2 RUGRATS IN PARIS (2000). In this second full-length flick based on Nickelodeon's animated TV show, Tommy's electrical whiz of a dad is summoned to France's new theme park, EuroReptarland, to fix his super-sized monster creation, the whole gang comes along to wreak havoc. Chuckie decides that Paris is the perfect place to snag himself a replacement for his late mom, but he probably didn't have in mind the head of the theme park, the evil temptress Coco LaBouche (voice of Susan Sarandon), who tries to seduce and marry Chuckie's dad so she can prove she's not a shrew and get promoted. But thanks to the tykes' insight, Coco gets the muzzle and daddy marries her assistant, the sweet Kira, who has a rugrat of her own, Kimi. With a fast-paced plot, a fair number of giggle-worthy puns, and a score including the rousing "Who Let the Dogs Out," this effort from Stig Bergqvist and Paul Demeyer is tolerable for indulging adults — and likely heaven for their own droolers. *Arlington Capitol, suburbs.*

S

★★1/2 THE SAME SIDE OF REJECTION STREET (2000). Two strangers who have next to nothing in common strike up a bizarre friendship in a little restaurant and spend the afternoon walking about the city sharing groundbreaking conversation about social injustice, gender differences, and consumerism. The plot may not be particularly original, but S.G. Collins's local effort has other assets. The lush photography, mostly of Southie and the Financial District, makes Boston look like a colorful and thriving metropolis. And Michael Henderson acts the part of street philosopher Winston well, though he's often too articulate to seem legitimately crazy. Karen Ball, on the other hand, plays a man-hating woman so gripe-happy and malcontent that she can be frustrating to watch, and the subplot about her trials with a creepy accordion-playing stalker isn't necessary and gums up the works. Although the film drags in spots near the end, a touching scene with Winston's estranged grandmother saves the day, giving it heart without making it sappy. *Museum of Fine Arts.*

★★1/2 SAVE THE LAST DANCE (2001). Thomas Carter's hip-hop high-school drama has Julia Stiles (*State and Main*) as an aspiring ballerina who has to move into the big city after her mom dies in a car crash. She's the only white girl at her new school, and since she's a poky when it comes to R&B, she persuades Derek (Sean Patrick Thomas), the resident hottie, to teach her a move or two. He's the only other student in the godforsaken place who has a shot at college — if he can stay free from the pillars of bad influence. Naturally the two fall for each other. The interracial lessons are hollow and contrived, but the film works when it's on the dance floor — it'll make even those of you with two left feet want to get out of your seats and bust a move. *Cheri, Fresh Pond, Circle, suburbs.*

★★1/2 SAVING SILVERMAN (2001). This punchy chuckler is one slice *American Pie* and the rest *Revenge of the Nerds*. Goofballs Wayne (Steve Zahn), J.D. (the uproarious Jack Black from *High Fidelity*), and Darren (Jason Biggs in the title role) work hack jobs, play in a Neil Diamond tribute band, and never get laid. Even Darren, when he hooks the icy-desirable Judith (the carnivorous, cleavage-enhanced Amanda Peet), doesn't get any action. The sophomoric schlock takes off when Wayne and J.D. abduct Judith, stage her death, and try to hitch Darren up with his high-school sweetheart (Amanda Detmer), who has returned to town to enter a nunnery. Hardened on Adam Sandler films, director Dennis Dugan batters the audience with rapid-fire gags, scoring on three of every five. The likable cast of up-and-comers carry the film with swagger, but it's R. Lee Ermey (*Full Metal Jacket*) as the homicidal football coach who best knows the drill. *Copley Place, Fenway, Fresh Pond, Chestnut Hill, suburbs.*

★★★SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE (2001). E. Elias Merhige's take on the making of F.W. Murnau's prototypical vampire movie *Nosferatu* owes much to Willem Dafoe's chimerically creepy performance as Max Schreck, the obscure German actor who played the unforgettable bloodsucker in Murnau's film, and who, in this ingenious if gimmicky premise from Merhige and first-time screenwriter Steven Katz, really *is* a vampire. The film's Murnau (John Malkovich) conceals the truth from the rest of the company as they labor on location in a spooky Czech hamlet, and he doesn't have much trouble maintaining the ruse, even as members of the crew drop like flies from the difficult star's nocturnal feedings. The hitch is that Murnau's 1922 masterpiece is a cinematic mirror of its audience's deepest dreads and desires, reflecting the Weimar period's unconscious impulses and prefiguring the Nazi nightmare to come, whereas *Shadow* reflects only itself, with Schreck a demonic incarnation of the medium that cheats death by drawing on images of life. It's not a new insight, and it's not stated eloquently through the fulminations of Malkovich's Murnau, but Merhige's camera does piece together a fair poetry of images. *Copley Place, Kendall Square, Coolidge Corner, suburbs.*

★★SNATCH (2001). For his eagerly awaited follow-up to *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, Guy Ritchie has concocted the exact same movie — besides the beefier budget, the only discernible differences are the coveted object and the smattering of big-name American actors. The heist du jour touches off in Antwerp, where, disguised as Chassidic Jews, Franky Four Fingers (Benicio Del Toro in a scant role) and crew extricate an 86-carat diamond from the Fort Knox of jewelers. When Franky hits the tarmac in London, the unsnuffable Russian, Boris the Blade (Rade Sherbedgia), gets wind of the score and sets out to usurp the big rock, as does American mafioso Cousin Avi (Dennis Farina). Caught up in the mix are a trio of bungling thugs plus Brad Pitt (spouting gibberish as One Punch Mickey O'Neil), the unbeatable Gypsy boxer, and an under-the-gun boxing promoter by the name of Turkish (Jason Statham) who serves as a lightning rod for all of the film's action. Like its predecessor, *Snatch* is a piquant visual experience, and there are some engaging caricatures to sink your teeth into, but overall it has too many players and too many shell games to be more than a sideshow attraction. *Fenway, Kendall Square, Circle, suburbs.*

SONS (1996). See our review of the HFA's "The Urban Cinema: Chinese Cinema and Society in Transformation," on page 3. *Harvard Film Archive.*

★★★STATE AND MAIN (2000). Beneath the four-letter words and brusque iconoclasm, bad boy David Mamet is just a traditionalist after all. A film crew invades a quirky New England village (actually our own Manchester-by-the-Sea) after being kicked out of New Hampshire because of an indiscretion involving his star Bob Barrenger (Alec Baldwin) and an underage girl. The film's director (William H.

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Macy, who makes it look easy) finds that the new location for *The Old Mill* poses problems as well. Like — no mill. Plus, there's an ambitious local politico who wants to shake down the production, more jailbait temptations for Barrenger, a balky starlet (Sarah Jessica Parker), an earnest screenwriter (Philip Seymour Hoffman) and the latter's new flame, a savvy local girl (Rebecca Pidgeon, recalling in her manner the young Katharine Hepburn of *Alice Adams*) who might embody the "purity" his screenplay is looking for. Although heavy on the bon mots, *State and Main* more often is sleek in construction. Too much so, perhaps — a few more potholes would have shaken up this traditional fare. *Nickelodeon, West Newton, suburbs.*

SWEET NOVEMBER (2001). See "Trailers," on page 6. *Copley Place, Fenway, Fresh Pond, Chestnut Hill , suburbs.*

T

THE TARNISHED ANGELS (1958). William Faulkner's novel *Pylon* seems an unlikely source for a Douglas Sirk melodrama, but it's the basis for this story of a reporter (Rock Hudson) drawn to a barnstorming stunt pilot (Robert Stack). With Sirk's favorite tawdry lady, Dorothy Malone. *Harvard Film Archive.*

★★1/2 THIRTEEN DAYS (2000). Roger Donaldson's re-creation of the Cuban missile crisis is a suspenseful thriller, even though we know how it all turned out. John F. Kennedy (Bruce Greenwood) and Robert F. Kennedy (Steven Culp) find themselves contending with not only the Soviets but also with the US military chiefs, who are (according to the film) itching to finish the Bay-of-Pigs-aborted job of destroying Fidel Castro. The story unfolds through the eyes of White House aide Kenny O'Donnell; Kevin Costner grows ever more calcified as an actor, but it's fun to see him angry and desperate, in a way he seldom has been since the last time director Roger Donaldson sent him careering through Washington (in *No Way Out*). Still, the standout is Greenwood's JFK: he doesn't look much like the president, but he conveys a quick mind, a combative will, a ready wit, and the charisma to prod others to do their best work for him. These days, we could do worse than a movie that gives us a president who inspires confidence and merits loyalty. *Cheri, Kendall Square, suburbs.*

"TOM VERLAINE: MUSIC FOR FILM." Verlaine and long-time associate Jimmy Ripp created this soundscape for guitar; the films include Man Ray's "Emak Bakia" and Fernand Léger's "Le ballet mécanique." *Museum of Fine Arts.*

★★★TRAFFIC (2000). At first glance, Steven Soderbergh's film seems raw, hip, and trenchant — but look again and it may seem merely a cynical film about cynicism that is, in its own way, more conventional than *Erin Brockovich*. Story #1 starts in the desert south of the border, where honest Mexican cop Javier Rodríguez (Benicio Del Toro) and partner Manolo (Jacob Vargas) have bagged a van full of coke only to have it impounded by slippery General Salazar (Tomás Milián). Story #2 finds Justice Robert Wakefield (Michael Douglas) about to become the president's new drug czar in Washington even as his teenage daughter Caroline (Erika Christensen) gets introduced by boyfriend Seth (Topher Grace) to the pleasures of crack cocaine. Story #3 has beaming and pregnant Helena Ayala (Catherine Zeta-Jones) totally unaware that undercover cops Roy Castro (Luis Guzman) and Montel Gordon (Don Cheadle), who in story #4 are pulling a sting on coke dealer Eduardo Ruiz (Miguel Ferrer), are about to reel in her drug-kingpin husband, David (Alec Roberts), whom she always thought was a respectable San Diego businessman. Based on a 1980s British Channel 4 television series, *Traffic* deftly compresses its story lines to make you feel you're watching half a dozen episodes at once. What this dazzling mix can't do is disguise the way the Michael Douglas plot line drifts off into a toothless variation of Paul Schrader's *Hardcore*, or make Zeta-Jones's transformation from vacant trophy wife to tough cookie as convincing as her swordsmanship in *The Mask of Zorro*. And though Soderbergh knows how to reverse your expectations — a character introduced as a merciless killer becomes a figure of wretched pity when naked and tortured — he's not above exploiting them. But if *Traffic* is not the high point of his career, it's at least worth the trip. *Copley Place, Fenway, Harvard Square, suburbs.*

U

★★UNDER THE SUN (2000). Adapted from an H.E. Bates short story, Colin Nutley's film stolidly lives up to its title (as in "there is nothing new . . . "), not only by quoting from Ecclesiastes at random moments but by avoiding any attempt at originality. It's Sweden in 1956: Olof (Rolf Lassgård, a Nordic Dan Blocker or John Goodman), a 40ish virginal farmer who can't read, puts an ad in the paper for a "young" housekeeper and gets more than he bargained for with Ellen (a radiant Helena Bergström), a mystery woman from the city. His ne'er-do-well chum Erik (a weasly, pompadoured Johan Widerberg) is jealous of his friend's good fortune and suspicious of Ellen's motives, and therein lie the slim dynamics of a slow-moving melodrama that doesn't go very far in explaining why gorgeous women fall for schlumpy men in subtitled movies. Lassgård and Bergström have some moments of genuine warmth and pathos, but the film's sensibility evokes an Irish Spring commercial. *Museum of Fine Arts.*

V

★VALENTINE (2001). Like many horror movies, this one's about revenge. We see a boy being picked on in junior high; then, 13 years later, all the girls who would never dance with him are being sent gruesome Valentine's Day cards signed "J.M." Then they're slaughtered. These young ladies are sexy and still rather bitchy, so fellas don't mind seeing them get what's coming to 'em. Meanwhile, the filmmakers want you to believe this creepy guy with the initials "J.M." is the boy from junior high and the killer, but if you actually fall for that, you deserve to have your popcorn taken away. Note for those who prefer to wait for the video/DVD release: Denise Richards's hot-tub scene checks in at about the 75-minute mark. *Copley Place, Fenway, Allston, suburbs.*

W

★★1/2 THE WEDDING PLANNER (2001). Jennifer Lopez plays a control-freak wedding planner who's out to land the next big account and become a partner in her firm, but for all her success, she's always the planner, and never the bride. Her dad (Alex Rocco) tries to arrange a marriage with an English-butchering Italian transplant (Justin Chambers), but it's a chance encounter with a pediatrician stud (Matthew McConaughey) that sets her heart on fire. As it turns out, however, the good doctor is engaged to "the next big account" (Bridgette Wilson-Sampras), and thus 90 minutes of raucous, unrequited love follows. McConaughey and Lopez lack pizzazz — what holds the film together is the comic pacing of director Adam Shankman and a battery of fringe characters, namely Joanna Gleason and Charles Kimbrough as the nouveau riche parents of the bride-to-be and Judy Greer as Lopez's ditzy assistant. *The Wedding Planner* doesn't take the cake, but it's a snappy confection. *Copley Place, Fenway, Fresh Pond, Chestnut Hill, suburbs.*

★★WHAT WOMEN WANT (2000). Nancy Meyers's film exceeds the expectations set by its central gimmick but winds up as flat as Mel Gibson's oft-exposed abs. Gibson's Nick Marshall is a chauvinist ad exec who repulses women at the same time he gets them in the sack. Then he falls into the tub with his hairdryer, sparks fly, and he wakes up a new man, one who can hear what women think — mostly that he's scum with a nice butt. It's a living hell until Nick realizes he can put his new skill to use at the office where his new female boss, Darcy Maguire (Helen Hunt), demands he learn to market products to women. This is all fun for a while, but for a movie that purports to get into the minds of women, *What Women Want* is mainly about Mel and how he becomes the ideal man in a mushy fashion that insults what moviegoers, women and men alike, want. *Copley Place, Arlington Capitol, suburbs.*

★★★★THE WIZARD OF OZ (1939). One of the screen's indelible fantasies, this version of L. Frank Baum's classic somehow manages — in all its wonderful excess — to transcend kitsch. Of course it's not all sweetness and innocence. Just consider those twisters languidly, inexorably lolling across the Kansas grayness, the phallic funnels looming over the closed, womblike shelter of the storm cellar. The macabre spectacle of the Wicked Witch of the East's feet, robbed of their Ruby Slippers, shriveling up under Dorothy's house. Or the Winged Monkeys, their formations filling the sky like a cross between Goya's *Sleep of Reason* and the Luftwaffe. Then you'll want to ask yourself how Dorothy's quest with her three needy, dysfunctional friends (Kansas farmhands metamorphosed into types of their own inadequacy) relates to current pop-psychological issues of empowerment and passive aggression. Is the film a Freudian, feminist, or Marxist allegory? Is Oz merely Kansas transformed by Dorothy's libidinous wish fulfillment (she is, after all, the 16-year-old Judy Garland) and early Technicolor? Is the man behind the curtain a metaphor for the dubious magic of the motion-picture industry itself? Ceratinly the final revelation is indisputable: reality doesn't matter as much as image, and illusion is as effective as truth if you believe in it, even if only for 90 minutes of screen time. *Coolidge Corner.*

★★★1/2 THE WONDERFUL, HORRIBLE LIFE OF LENI RIEFENSTAHL (1993). There seems little doubt that Riefenstahl is the greatest woman director of all time. Certainly her 1934 Nazi propaganda movie *Triumph of the Will* is a staggering piece of filmmaking, seductive and repugnant. Spry, imperious, and impossible at 90, Riefenstahl insists in this documentary by Ray Müller that she's sorry she ever made it — not because she thinks she shouldn't have, but because of the notoriety that's dogged her ever since. She says she approached the speeches in *Triumph of the Will* as drama, not as propaganda — a stupefying argument. She makes many other vehement arguments in her defense; the film doesn't always back her up. Through it all, right to contemporary footage of her scuba-diving with her much younger cameraman/lover, one thing is irrefutable: she's a hell of a subject for a movie. *Harvard Film Archive.*

X

XIAO WU (1997). See our review of the HFA's "The Urban Cinema: Chinese Cinema and Society in Transformation," on page 3. *Harvard Film Archive.*

Y

★★★★YI YI (2000). This amazing three-hour movie by Taiwanese writer/director Edward Yang is a series of vignettes about the lives of members of a Taipei family who all reach individual points of crisis during the same brief period of time — after the wedding of A-Di (Chen Xisheng) and his pregnant bride, Xiao Yan (Xiao Shushen). A-Di's mother (Tang Ruyun) falls ill the day of the wedding and lapses into a coma. His sister, Mih-Min (Elaine Jin), begins to feel alienated from her existence. Her husband, NJ Jian (Wu Nienjen), finds that his instincts aren't compatible with those of his partner, Da-Da (Michael Tao), a friend since childhood. And when he runs into an old girlfriend, Sherry (Ke Suyun), he begins to wonder whether he didn't walk away from the love of his life. His teenage daughter, Ting-Ting (Kelly Lee), experiences an overwhelming guilt over her grandmother's illness because the old lady collapsed while putting out the garbage, a task Ting-Ting was supposed to perform. A-Di is unsettled too — luckless in business, he can't seem to get himself out of debt or sever his ties to the woman he used to live with (Zeng Xinyi). Yang presents these stories with an extreme restraint, as if he wanted to apologize for the intrusion of his camera on moments so private and emotional. Yet the characters exert such a powerful hold on the imagination that the movie never loses its dramatic urgency. *Arlington Capitol.*

★★★YOU CAN COUNT ON ME (2000). Laura Linney creates a breakthrough role as a woman suffering from single-mother dysfunction in upstate New York. Free of her marriage to a redneck creep, Sammy struggles to be a caring parent and make ends meet in a dead-end banking job. Her on-again, off-again boyfriend (Jon Tenney) finally wants to get married — but then she wavers on his proposal and starts sleeping with her new anal-retentive boss (Matthew Broderick), who's married and expecting a baby. The acting, especially from Linney, is superb, and though writer/director Ken Lonergan (he wrote the script for *Analyze This*) at times betrays his players with forced situational entrapments and highbrow dialogue, his dark, witty depiction of small-town motherhood is affectingly bittersweet. *Nickelodeon, Kendall Square, West Newton, suburbs.*

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FRIENDLY GIRL
Petite, spunky, intelligent, energetic SAF, 23, enjoys food, dancing, movies and fun. Seeking single male for friendship or more. ☎4886

MIT GRAD
Nice, smart guy. S/DWM, 30-45, who's handsome, kind, spiritual, humorous, fun, is wanted by pretty, blonde, petite, well-proportioned, heart-centered, kind, smart, musical, fun DWF, 34. ☎4781

EASYGOING
Laid-back, spontaneous, easygoing SF, 30, curly brown/brown, likes Everclear, Bob Marley, outdoor activities, good wine, pizza. Seeking good-hearted, sensible, funny, down-to-earth male, 28-35, for long-term relationship. ☎4413

SNOW WHITE
Honest, funny, intelligent, attractive SWF, 19, enjoys theater and everything about being a thespian. Seeking a humorous, attractive, honest, intelligent SM, with similar interests. ☎4064

CAVIAR & CHAMPAGNE
Beautiful blonde, 30s, 5'4", mysterious, gorgeous, loves dancing, the Beatles, reading, caviar and champagne. Seeking honest SWM, 35-43, non-smoker, non-drinker, with sense of humor, for movies, dancing, and a little romance. ☎4757

TRYING THIS AGAIN
Recovering WASP with the soul of a lower East-sider, attractive 38 year-old seeks man with a beautiful smile, who wants kids, has his own circle of friends and accepts me for who I am. ☎4695

NEW YEAR, NEW LOVE
Pretty, sassy, smart chick, 35, 5'4", 125lbs, seeks you...you are under 45, funny, attractive, communicative, financially stable. Boston/North Shore area. ☎4518

WILD THING
Extremely outgoing, outspoken, optimistic, strong-minded SF, 18, reddish-brown/baby blue, loves clubbing, karaoke, hanging with friends. Seeking outgoing, independent guy, 21-28, willing to try new things, for dating, maybe long-term relationship. ☎4514

SO ALIVE
Girlish pretty, feminine, sweet, smart, slim DWF, 40s, red/hazel, seeks independent SM, 45-60, for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. ☎4058

ARTIST
Creative, successful, intelligent artist, early 30s, beautiful, fit, loves film. Seeking very attractive, kind, caring man, early 30s-late 40s, with curious mind, interest in arts. ☎3483

LUST FOR LIFE
Attractive, fit, energetic, attractive, quirky, funny, open-minded DWF, 39, seeks SM for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. ☎4071

SEEKING UK GUY
Hip, pretty, full-figured (not fat) girl, 30-something, seeks cool, cute, intelligent British, Irish, or Scottish guy. ☎3997

OPEN-MINDED
Smart, sexy, fit, attractive, passionate WPF, 40s, loves music, movies, conversation, outdoors. Seeking creative, positive, confident, energetic, focused guy for fun, adventure and cuddling. ☎3190

STILL DECIDING...
what I want to be when I grow up! Plucky, funny, sexy SF, 37, brown/brown, loves chocolate, bicycling, cooking, hanging out with friends. Seeking open-minded, intelligent, appealing man, 38-48, for friendship first. ☎5001

REALLY NICE FEET
Intelligent, affectionate, flippant female, 35. into Tony Bennett, Yes, chocolate, dancing. Seeking funny, passionate, charming, energetic man, 21+, for dating. ☎4989

FUN-LOVING
Bright, beautiful SJF, 30, runner, gourmet cook, into indie films, chunky shoes, alt rock, hiking. Seeking handsome, dynamic intelligent, caring SM, 27-37, for real deal. ☎4305

BOSTON KITTEN
Educated, attractive SWF, 21, enjoys dive bars, travel, good books, mafia movies, tattoos, smart people, old cars, music. Seeking SM, 19-27, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎4954

A last call of the day. SWF, 33, seeks SM, non-smoker, for friendship, fun, cooking, and much more. ☎4887

LOOKING FOR FUN
Athletic, attractive SWF, 40, 5'8", auburn/green, enjoys walks, sunsets, sunrises, movies, dancing, play, museums, sports. Seeking fun-loving SM, with similar interests, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎4808

DANGEROUS ANGEL
Beautiful, playful, creative, stylish, sensual, irreverent, vegan SWF, 35, 5'5", 135lbs, classic curves, seeks adventurous, affectionate, monogamous, veggie lover, non-smoker, for magic and mischief. ☎4762

SHARPSHOOTER!
Independent SWF, 23, likes movies, music, going out with friends, having fun. Seeking outgoing, attractive SWM, 22-28, to be my soulmate. ☎4679

ACTIVIST WITH SPARK
Politically-progressive female, 35, fun, funky, down-to-earth, seeks the big love. Into music, independent films, activism. Seeking 30-40, self-aware, left-of-center. All races welcome. MA only, please. ☎3387

THIN, PRETTY, WARM
Intelligent professional SWF, 34, 5'11", loves biking, hiking, books, movies, dogs, and politics. Seeking smart, funny man who likes the same and wants more. ☎4625

GREEK GODDESS
Tall, brown-haired, brown-eyed college student looking for a fun time on the town! I like trying new things, meeting new people and having a great time. Looking for the same thing? ☎4516

SLOW POKE?
29 year-old, fuller-figured SWF seeks professional, successful, intelligent SWM, 29-34, for unrushed relationship. Interests include music, movies, museums, road trips and other travel, long walks, working out. Interested? ☎4524

SEEK CONNECTION
Compassionate, intelligent, positive, happy, funny, adventurous SWF, 29, enjoys travel, languages, foreign cultures and meditation. Seeking positive SM, 27-34, with good sense of humor. ☎4446

ARE YOU OUT THERE?
Attractive, silly, creative, professional SWF, 26, 5', brown/brown, seeks attractive, sensitive, romantic, professional SWM, 26-30, with great sense of humor. Enjoys movies, music, travel, dining out, etc. ☎4408

INTELLECTUAL DJF
Adventurous, funky, old-fashioned, intelligent, caring DJF, seeks JM counterpart in his 50s. ☎2446

ENJOY IT!
Attractive, outgoing SWPF, 25, 5'4", enjoys outdoors, climbing, and hiking. Seeking outgoing, athletic SWM, 25-32, to have fun with and enjoy life. ☎4349

SCUBA DIVER
Pretty, slim, long-haired female, 36, 5'7", enjoys running, violin, travel. Seeking tall, fit, caring SWM, 40-50, 5'11"+, for great relationship. ☎2160

WINTER WARMER
Pretty, curious SWF, 29, loves music, shows, movies at Kendall, reading, people watching, lazy Sundays. Seeking fun with smart, fit, independent, slightly offbeat SM, 27-40. ☎4306

GLOBETROTTER
Drop-dead gorgeous redhead, 32, with fantastic, outgoing personality wondering where all the decent funny guys are. ☎4224

PROFESSIONAL
Very attractive, slim SF, 38, 5'8" with long curly hair, seeks attractive man who appreciates the finer as well as the simpler things in life. ☎3805

SENSITIVE & FUNNY?
Outgoing, funny, athletic SF, 21, black hair, speaks French, likes Thai food, sailing, Sonique, clubbing. Seeking sensitive, funny guy, 30-40, for dating. ☎4991

ALL I HAVE IS TIME
Charismatic, contagious, magnetic, well-rounded woman, 27, DJ and amateur boxer, likes being spontaneous. Melt me like butter with your charm, allure, thoughtfulness, sensuality. Romantic man, 28-32, wanted. Let's see what happens. ☎4999

LATE BLOOMER
Moody, intellectual, adventurous, green-eyed blonde, 34, refuses to watch Survivor, likes kayaking, reading, dancing, people-watching. Seeking sweet, smart, funny, laid-back man, 28-40, who's not self-absorbed. ☎5002

JENNIFER OR HALLIE
Not! Attractive, down-to-earth SBF, 41, 5'6", 160lbs, brown/brown, light complexion, loves travel, fine dining, cuddling, rainy days. Seeking humorous gentleman to build friendship first. ☎3486

BRIGHT BEAUTY
DWF, 5'7", 12lbs, blonde/blue, enjoys college graduate, long blond hair, blue eyes, enjoys many activities. Seeking intelligent, attractive, secure and communicative SWM, for LTR. ☎4966

THE IT GIRL
Funny, outgoing SWF 33, Garafolo-ish writer/graphic designer seeks smart, uncommon, trusty feller 28-41 for indie movies/music, chit chat, absurd adventures, & inside jokes. ☎4940

HYPER AND LOUD...
but Fun! Outgoing SWF, 25, enjoys hip-hop to indie rock, art galleries to dive bars, studying physics to watching basketball. Seeking fun-loving SM for relationship. ☎4885

LIKE THE "KINKS"?
Smart, wacky, fun SWF, 24, 5'3", brunette, hopeless romantic, into rock-n-roll, football, history. Want to see the red sox? ☎4871

YOUR SWEET SURRENDER
to the allure of a soft, buxom, full-figured DWF, 44, desires a romantic, affectionate, sexy bad-boy, for serious long-term relationship. I enjoy the beach, dancing, movies, the arts, and you. ☎4231

SNOWING ROSES
Fit, stable, romantic SPF, 5'6", well-proportioned, blonde/green, enjoys traveling, dancing, modeling, working out, long walks, candlelight dinners, romantic evenings. Seeking independent, athletic, stable, vibrant, attractive SPM, 45-55. ☎4769

NILES KRANE?
Single white Catholic female, 38, N/S, seeks single male for friendship, fun, companionship, and more. ☎4797

RARE IRISH BEAUTY
Seeks health conscience SPM, 30s. Some say I resemble Winona Ryder, but I'm a slim, 5'6", red-head, with hazel eyes. Political activism is my passion, but I also love movies, music, skiing, tennis, and yoga. ☎4809

PRETTY SLIM DJPF
Pretty, slim DJPF, 46, 5'6", spiritual, intelligent, physically active. Seeking nice, caring, grounded male, soulmate/LTR Southshore. ☎4829

RUSSIAN STAR
In different ways. Slim Russian girl seeks white man, 25-60, with sense of humor, sharing different interests in arts and spirituality. ☎2764

DOWN TO THIS
SWF, 28, with no children, enjoys outdoors, Boston at night, relaxing with movies and wine. Seeking sexy, intelligent man who knows what he's talking about. ☎4766

FLASH FORWARD...
3 days later. We've had dinner. did sparks fly? Encore? High-spirited, attractive female seeks sparky companion, 30-40, for amiable consort. No whining! ☎4700

DO YOU READ
these, but never reply? I know it seems impossible. Looking for deep-thinking, full-feeling, fun-loving SM. I'm 34, professional, inquisitive, playful. Massive Attack, pool, Julian's, Kimchee, sparklers. ☎2588

SWEET AND SEXY
Very attractive, warm, passionate, romantic, sensitive, honest SBF, 35, still believes in magic. Loves laughing, surprises, dancing and music. Seeking humorous, easygoing, sensitive, sincere SWM, 25-45, for candles and wine. ☎4629

LET'S CUDDLE UP
SWF, 44, 5'5", non-smoker, blonde, easygoing, educated, health-conscious, looking to keep warm this winter with emotionally/financially stable good-humored professional, knows he wants someone special. ☎3400

INTELLECTUAL SF
PhD., student & entrepreneur, slim, interests incl theatre, travel & athleticism, Buddhism & fine arts. Seek friendship w/ educated, ethical, warm individuals renaissance in perspective. ☎4683

UNIQUE & CHARMING
Funny, athletic, memorable professor, 37, enjoys dancing, laughing, poetry, philosophy, gardening, artistic endeavors. Seeking soulmate to search fountains of youth. ☎3128

BE MY VALENTINE
SF searching for real love. Are you rich, smart, cute, with hairy chest? Do you like ping pong, Space Invaders, "dirty deeds done dirt cheap"? ☎4604

MR.
Positive, patient, compassionate, pretty brunette, enjoys the country and city. Laughter, family, music, all important.. are they for you? Seeking good-looking male, 33+. ☎2639

UNIQUE
Spontaneous, intelligent, attractive, never bored or boring. Has been known to give an occasional ulcer. Seeking a man with the courage to respond to this ad. ☎3005

ACTIVE, AFFECTIONATE
Curious, faithful, intelligent, childless, WF, 36, height/weight proportionate, brown/brown, enjoys outdoors, nascar, bowling, cooking. Seeking S/DWM, 36-47, steady relationship. ☎4202

Pretty, hazel eyed brunette SJF, 38, likes comedy and music. Seeking S/DJM, 38-49, soulmate, who's sincere, humorous and romantic. ☎9240

SPARKLING SMILE
Russian girl, feminine, slim, holistic lifestyle, open-minded, likes arts, cooking, dancing. Seeking SW gentleman, 25-50, to share interests, possibly more. ☎5429

FUN SEEKER
Fun SWF, 25, seeks SM, 20-30, who likes sox games, music (rock or hip-hop), dancing, and playing hoops. A sense of humor required. ☎4353

CUTE GIRL
Nice SBF, 23, N/S, enjoys going out, and seeing new things. Seeking genuine, fine SM, 22-27 for friendship. ☎4359

SECRET AGENT MAN?
Tiny, dictatorial yet charming SF, 21, seeks intelligent, articulate man with excellent taste in music for undercover maneuvers. Frivolous inquires welcome. ☎4296

FAERIE BOI SEEKS
Attractive, waifish, nymphet, lollipop girl with taste for the dark sought by this 6'6, 29 year-old boi. Let's enjoy life. ☎4298

EVERYTHING MATTERS
Passionate, sassy, honest female, 25, into movies, folky stuff, R.E.M., chicken fajitas, reading, travel, aimless drives. Seeking live music/diner/travel junkie, 25-32, for possible long-term relationship. ☎4270

PASSIONATE
SWF, 43, passionate in work/fun, progressive, existential depth, interests in visual arts, music, things outside the mainstream. Seeking man with similar world view. ☎4294

BORN AGAIN
Very attractive SWCF, chestnut brown/hazel, enjoys movies, dining out, bible studies. Seeking SWCM, similar interests, 32-39, who loves the lord as much as I do. ☎3026

PLAY WITH ME
SWF, 38, professional, non-smoker, Rubenesque figure, cute and passionate, likes being playful and adventurous, and dining at McDonald's to Mistral, looking to date SM. ☎4203

TALENTED WOMAN...
who has a passion for music, politics, great fun, adventure, travel, loves to meet, educated, worldly man, 49+, to share life's beautiful moments. Vancouver Canada. ☎4081

FOREIGN MEN ARE...
more interesting. Very pretty SWF, 33, seeks a handsome man from a foreign land. I enjoy films, ethnic food, travel, reading, the outdoors and good conversation. ☎4109

IRIE
Charming SWF, 31, N/S, seeks SM, 25-35, for friendship, fun times and much more. ☎4032

A SONG WORTH LIVING
I'm a friendly person and enjoy plays, socials, biking, staying active. I'm 40-something, over 5'7", under 200 pounds, and outrageously beautiful. Call me! ☎3806

YOU WON'T BE BORED
Cute, sexy, witty SWF, 40s, with eclectic tastes, seeks renaissance man, 40-50. Should be creatively spontaneous, open-minded, and willing to explore all the universe has to offer. Intrigued? ☎4115

ECLECTIC TASTES
SWF, 28, attractive, creative, energetic professional, seeks SWM, 25-35, to embark on zany adventures, live music, indie film, people-watching, travel, who knows when to be silly, serious, honest, romantic, for possible relationship. ☎4118

WORTH THE WAIT
Independent, introverted SWF, 38, values communication, enjoys sports, music. Seeking bright, educated, athletic male, 34-40. ☎4978

ENERGETIC TYPE
Liberal, independent, ecumenical Catholic female, 33, brown/brown, into film, theater, tennis, music, and the non-humdrum life. Seeking sensitive, spiritual, communicative SM, 33-39, for long-term relationship. ☎4996

ENJOY THE MOMENT!
Outgoing, enthusiastic female, 41, auburn/blue, tall, slim, with good sense of humor, likes hiking, skiing, sushi, movies, theater, football, camping, Jimmy Buffet. Seeking man, 39-42, with intelligence, integrity, sense of humor. ☎5000

LETS HIT THE TOWN
Very pretty SWF, 26, 5'8", 120lbs, enjoys dancing, dining, theater, museums. S/DM, 35+, for romantic times, and who knows? ☎5003

FRIENDS
Cute DWF, 33, looking for someone to have fun and laugh with. Seeking male, 30-45. Lets chat.. ☎4923

HI!
Want to meet someone fabulous and fun? Here I am! SWF, 29, N/S, likes music, concerts, movies, laughter. New to Boston, seeking similar male, 28-30. ☎4932

SPICY THAI
AF, 42, 5'6", 140lbs, loves to cook, dining, looking for SM, 40-50, for friendship and more. ☎4934

BELLE SEEKS..
Sebastian. SWF, 28, digs french pop, film noir, Brit pop art, enjoys mod night Pandora's box. Seeks gentleman, 23-31, similar interests. Leave baggage at door. ☎4938

SEEKING HERO
Fun-loving, humorous, caring, honest, sincere mom of four boys, 35, smoker, seeks male, 30-40, with same qualities. No games. ☎4906

OUT TO YOURSELF
Came out to yourself only now? Me too. Fairly recently anyway. Looking for people like myself to hang out, chat, etc. SWF, 27, graduate student. ☎4111

LEGGIADRA
Vivacious, pretty, musical, literary Italian goddess, seeks sensitive, handsome, intellectual, artistic, youthful/mature, fit, passionate, 30ish man for stimulating conversation, poetry by candlelight, adventures. ☎3020

NEW BEGINNINGS
Feminine DWF, 24, 4'11", 108lbs, brown/hazel, enjoys opera/classical music, theater, travel. Seeking SM, 25-35, no taller than 5'10", non-smoker, for good times, long-term. Nashua, NH. ☎4795

VIVACIOUS SWF
Smart, creative, funny SWF, 32, blonde, enjoys movies, literature, writing, live music, bars and good beer. Seeking regular guy. ☎4774

VERY ATTRACTIVE JF
Fit JF, auburn/blue, liberal politics, alternative rock, NPR, travel, health/fitness. Seeking similar, attractive SJM, 36-49, 5'7"-6'2". ☎3304

NICE GUY
Widowed WF, reddish-brown/brown, 5'2", enjoys dancing, movies, dining out. Seeking nice, sincere gentleman, 55-65, for friendship and dating. North Shore area. ☎4761

EASY ON THE EYES
Petite, attractive, blonde SF, 5'1", 105lbs, non-smoker, enjoys walking, aerobics, dancing. Seeking attractive, honest, sincere, financially/emotionally secure SWM, 46-53, with good sense of humor, non-smoker, for friendship first. ☎4754

PRINCESS IN PROVIDENCE
Chic, attractive, independent, spontaneous SWF, 20, seeks adventurous, fit, honest, tall, dark, handsome SM, 20-27, for relationship. ☎4685

ROMANTIC & CARING
DWF, 40+, very young-at-heart, 5'3", 140lbs, blonde/green, seeks warm, caring man who knows how to have fun and laugh. Must be non-smoker, 45+. ☎2561

MR RIGHT
SWF, 24, 5'5", 198lbs, smoker, enjoys playing pool, bowling, movies, romantic dinners, long walks on the beach. Looking for SWM, 24-29, smoker, same qualities, and interest. ☎4601

SKIP THE...
sugar coating. Straightforward, silly, sexy, cynical, sparkly SF, 38, seeks same in SM, 35-55. ☎4606

COME CORRUPT ME
Sassy, good-looking SWF, 40, seeks fun, free-spirited, handsome, sensual, silly, well-read SM, 34-42, who loves to travel, reading, see foreign flicks, road trips. ☎4619

HANG OUT
Single white female, 34, seeks single male 21-28, to hang out with, possible relationship. ☎4598

READ THIS ONE
Attractive SWF, 32, interested in film, art, travel, reading and fitness. Looking for kind, established SM, 30-38. ☎4583

Interview

Frank Ribaudo; owner, Club Café & Blackstone's

By Mae South

What started Club Cafe?
1983, I collaborated with friends of mine; we actually wanted to compete with the Back Bay Racket Club, who at the time were harassing their perceived gay membership: that kinda pissed us off. So we opened a sports club, the cafe was going to be just an adjunct. Within 90 days of being open, we took 800 members from them. A year later, they closed down.

How has the gay scene changed since then and now?
It's matured tremendously. Back in the early 80's, it seems like everybody was in their 20's and 30's, all these young, hot guys. We opened this business catering to that group, but we decided to do something a little different. We decided not to be trendy, to not have outrageous acting or looking people and instead, try to focus on the mainstream. We developed a classy restaurant, nice food, comfortable environment and a clean, all-American staff. And we sort of stuck to that. In the last 5 years, we've opened the back room so the guys can go crazy in there with our VJs. We also have a large lesbian clientele.

You have a very successful cafe, why open Blackstone's?
I was bored. I didn't really need to do a lot here; I have managers. I don't need to be on the floor or on the phone, so I decided to open the other restaurant. Now that I've met someone, I wish I didn't have the extra responsibilities (laughs).

What's Blackstone's like?
It's contemporary gothic. We bought antique fixtures and furniture from a cathedral that was torn down in Roxbury, then did everything over in Ralph Lauren colors. Our chef is phenomenal; he introduced a new menu just last week.

Best and worst part of being an entrepreneur?
Everyone in Boston knows me; it's nice to be noticed. I've been here over 20 years. It's my home. At one time, I thought about moving, but I couldn't give up the relationships I have here. The bad part, I find myself working too much.

What's currently spinning in your CD player?
Mostly jazz; I'm a big Eartha Kitt and Edith Piaf fan.

Thing you can't leave the house without?
Myself.

Other fave dining destinations?
No. 9 Park, Rialto. Going out for cocktails: Mistral or Fritz, sort of the extremes.

What keeps you so fit and trim?
I play softball and coach one of Club Cafe's teams; I also bowl on a gay bowling league.

Guys and gals around town in the know, know that Club Café and Blackstone's are perfect for a great meal and a great time. Check out Club Café at 209 Columbus St., (617) 536-0966 and Blackstone's on the Square, 1525 Washington St., Boston. (617)247-4455.

TO LISTEN AND RESPOND TO PERSONALS CALL 976-3366. CALL COSTS $1.99 A MINUTE.
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GalsseekingGuys

YOU HAVE BRAINS...
in your head, a spring in your step. SBF, 35, 5'8", hopes you are inclined to answer these lines. Well-traveled, enterprising, interested in the world. No green eggs and ham (vegetarian) but love Seuss-style fun. You: 30s (or close), creative side with feet firmly on the ground, with self-knowledge and gumption. Lanky build a plus. Non-smoker a must. ☎4526

NORTH OF BOSTON
SWF, 54, enjoys outdoors, music , dancing, weekend getaways, looking for nice SWM, 45-60, non-smoker, for dating/friendship. ☎4529

SENSE OF HUMOR?
Attractive, healthy, fit, active SWF, 33, philosophy major with great personality, seeks health-conscious and musically-inclined SM, 30-40, with good sense of humor, for possible LTR. ☎4442

FROM METRONORTH
Northwest area, petite, trim SF, 50, 108lbs, gardener, researcher, hiker, pacifist, conservative learnings, educator and tradesman, seeks bright, assertive male, not a lecturer. ☎4412

LOVE LIFE?
SWF, 24, seeks adventurous, creative, open-minded SM, who enjoys laughing, funny jokes, animals, camping, auto racing, more. Must have a good attitude, and be willing to take chances. ☎4435

CHARLIE'S ANGELS
Easy, witty, lovable woman, 26, into Lauryn Hill, Cheryl Crow, Italian food, travel, movies, weekend getaways. Seeking single guy, 21-33, with sense of humor, personality, great physique and smile. ☎4293

TAKE A CHANCE
SBF, 49, seeks SBM 49-58, non-smoker, drug-free, must like jazz, concerts, going to the movies, traveling and a good sense of humor. ☎4213

GOOD DANCER?
Easygoing, confident, determined SF, 37, brown/green, likes Wizard of Oz, Black Crowes, Italian/Mexican /seafood, running, biking, museums, walking. Seeking honest, hard-working, fun, energetic man, 25-50. ☎4297

INTO INDIE?
Funky, cute, outdoorsy 22 year-old seeks musically-aware buddy for frequenting the Middle East, drinking beers, Yo La Tengo, Luna, Sunnyday, Radiohead. Moutainbikers, hikers, rock stars encouraged. ☎4299

LAUGHTER IS CRUCIAL
Cool, creative, cosmopolitan SF, 27, blonde/gray, into Bjork, Live, Garbage, photography, travel, dogs, snowboarding, books. Seeking artistic/creative, employed, fun, independent, single professional, 25-38. ☎4310

ABOUT AS FATALE...
as an after-dinner mint, but twice as breathtaking. Slender, loquacious, amber-haired, artist, 30+, loves BladeRunner, Daily Show, books, Beck, seeks intelligent, cute, considerate SM, 24+. ☎3191

KEEP UP WITH ME
Athletic, adventuresome, attractive and classy SWF seeks financially/emotionally/physically stable SWM 26-35 for sparkling eyes and smiling hearts. Serial daters need not apply. ☎4062

PARTY MATE WANTED
Female, late, 20s, seeks playmate for parties, chatting, storytelling, road trips, not for interviewing each other, nor for fulfilling a marriage quest. Come on in! ☎4083

I DO EXIST
Fun, easygoing SF, 46, enjoys country music, seeks S/DWM, 40-55, who likes dining out, movies, walks, animals, non-smoker, light drinker ok. ☎3940

SEEKING NICE MAN
SWF, 50, with youthful mentality/values, seeks polite, courteous SWM, under 60, who enjoy dining out, movies, travel, for companionship leading to long-term relationship. ☎3992

FRIENDS FIRST
This unconventional, creative, pretty, young-looking 32 year-old SWF seeks tall, fit male, 25-35, into hiking, dogs, skateboarding, punk rock, web design and general fabulousness. ☎3959

LADY OF SUBSTANCE
Seeking cross between Victor Hugo, D'Artagnan, and Hector. Professional SWF, 38, seeks man of true stature. ☎3972

BUSINESSWOMAN
SWF, 26, 130lbs, blonde/blue, likes fine art, intelligence, laughter, roller blading. Seeking happy, fit professional SWM, 27-33, non-smoker. ☎3932

REDHEAD LOOKING FOR LOVE
SF, 20, actively seeks a nice male, 28-27, who is very romantic, trustworthy, has a sense of humor, and is sweet and caring. ☎3807

PLAYFUL
Petite female, 28, 95lbs, blondish-brown/blue, seeks professional SWM, 28-32, tall, dark, and handsome with killer eyes, who likes children, dancing, movies, shooting pool, etc. ☎3053

BRITISH KOALA
SWF, 32, seeks kitten owner, 29-37. Among likes are: libraries, jogging, receiving mail, and baby dolls. Prefer psychiatrist or psychologist. ☎1095

CHRISTIAN
SWCF, 30, seeking SWCM, 30-35, for a Christian-based friendship/ relationship. Non-smoker, please. ☎8619

FUN SPIRITED SF
PSWF, 34, 5'10, seeks B/WPM for casual or LTR. New to the area. Humor & lust for life's pleasures a must! ☎4987

OUTGOING & SILLY!
Down-to-earth SF, 34, dirty blonde, hazel eyes, likes skiing, dancing, movies, the Eagles, Creed, Sade, shopping, traveling. Seeking spiritual, sports-minded, workaholic man, 35+, with good build, financially secure. ☎4995

LIKES TO DANCE
Outgoing SWF, 52, good conversationalist and listener, enjoys outdoors, art, music, dancing, reading, movies that make you think. Seeking male, 50-65. ☎4902

SEEKING BIKER
SF, 43, 5'1", blonde, mother, likes alternative music and the blues, sewing, cult movies, yard sales, pets. Seeking fellow biker for friendship, love, companionship. ☎4876

CHERISH BUT KIDS PLAY
5'9", 120lbs, model blonde, soft, refined, well-carried, Film/PR/Nurse. Seeking tall, upper, highly successful, rapport. Faith? Tan trench? Privacy, quietness. NY ☎4770

BE MY FRIEND !
Brazilian female, 28, is looking for friend, 18-35. Teach me about your beautiful culture! I want to know you better! ☎4921

SEEKING ADVENTURE
Short, heavy set SF, 42, seeks educated, heavy/portly gentleman, 40-55, teddy bear type, for sports, museums, poetry, and more. ☎4841

FRIENDSHIP?
This female seeks male, 49-55, non-drinker, drug-free, who enjoys outdoor activities, for friendship first, possible relationship. ☎4699

R U MR. RIGHT??
Sexy, independent, strong WF, 29, seeks emotionally/financially secure, husky, but built man, 26-35, with great sense of humor. ☎4752

ABUNDANT FEMALE...
mid-life, classical musician, throws great parties, with animals and piano art collections. Seeking unkempt, brainy, tall guy with tolerance and desire to partner. ☎4694

LOVELESS CHEF
Romantic SWF, 25, enjoys going to clubs, bars, pubs, just hanging in and watching a good movie. Seeking SM, 22-28, 5'10"+. No head games. ☎4614

MEMPHIS CHICK
Down-to-earth SF, 27, who is new to the area, seeks SM with whom to explore all that Boston and the surrounding areas have to offer. ☎4433

ISLAND POET
SBF, 40, 5'3, 127lbs, honest, caring, loves dancing, movies, long walks. Seeking SBM, non-smoker, honest caring, independent, mature, who knows how to treat a lady. ☎3033

HI
SWF, 18, seeks independent, strong SM, 21-28, who is willing to try new things. For possible relationship. ☎4481

NO PUPPIES!
I'm still looking, but not for diamonds in the ruff! Refined, regal show cat seeks mature, refined show dog, 30-35. No junkyard dogs! ☎4404

OOOFSCHNICKY
SWF, student at Quinnipiac University, plays guitar/bass/drums, likes bar-hopping, going to shows, New York City, and especially music. Seeking SM, 20-25, for possible relationship. ☎4351

COFFEE ANYONE?
SWM, 24, enjoys all sports (ice hockey and football are the top two), horseback riding, rollerblading, dancing, reading, swimming, beach walks, star gazing. ☎4347

MISCHIEVOUS
Clam, professional, mischievous SWM, 24, seeks feisty, eccentric SF, 21-27, who can stick through difficult conversations and feeling, and has good chemistry with me. ☎4366

REAL SWEETHEART
Creative SPF, 46, seeks tall, cool partner in crime for urban adventures, long talks over cups of coffee, indie flicks, hanging out, laughing at life. ☎4261

PRETTY WOMAN
witty, clever, 32, literature grad student, Anglo/Celtophile, loves music, movies, Dane, Blackadder. Seeking similar man, under 40, own hair, voracious reader, good talker, interesting/interested. ☎4308

WHERE ARE YOU?
SWF, 37, seeks kind, honest, loving man, 25-40, animal lover, who enjoys movies, gardening, and beachcombing. ☎4156

Hybiscus! Survival for me=warmth, sunshine days, and cool evenings with star-studded skies, SM, 30+, non-smoker. Can you help me to survive this cold winter. Please call! ☎4166

COME WALK WITH ME
SF, 46, 5'8", black/brown, teacher, like sports, dining, cooking, theater. Seeking secure, gentle, kind man. No mind games/baggage. ☎3988

DON'T MISS OUT!
SWF, 33, college degree, N/S, seeks male, 30-36, for dating, possible LTR. ☎3943

WOMAN OF MANY INTERESTS
Adventuresome DWF, 45, seeks S/DWM, 40-55, for friendship, activity partner, or possible long-term relationship. ☎3804

LOOKING FOR GOOD TIMES
Attractive SWF, 40s, long brunette/hazel, size ten, enjoys movies, dining out, romance, and a good time. Seeking male 38-52, with similar interests. ☎3144

AGE IS AN ATTITUDE
Female, early 60s, looks and feels younger, 5'8", red/hazel, wants to start 2001 in style. What's taken you so long to meet me? I live in the Worcester area. ☎3994

GuysseekingGals

SICK OF IT ALL
Intense, straight-edge, smart, short Gary Sinise kinda looking guy, a perfectionist, 39, with two kids and twisted sense of humor. Seeking caring, intelligent, attractive, honest woman who can communicate. No more issues please. I enjoy school, chess, Minor Threat, philosophy, and sleeping like spoons. Please know who you are, where you're going. Age/race unimportant. ☎4765

FIBROMYALGIA
Humorous, handsome, creative, professional SWM, 39, 5'11", 170lbs, with Fibro, seeks empathetic female, 23-50, with Fibro, for mutual support, understanding, and fun times. ☎2420

RATHER UNIQUE
Hard-working, tall, handsome SWM, 29, with a cute baby-face and dry humor. Seeking classy, attractive, tall, funny SF, 18-30. ☎4608

DEATH DEFYING
Slim, eclectic man, 23, vegetarian, agonistic, undeniably honest, sometimes modest, good listener, enjoys songwriting, films, new activities. Seeking similar woman. Dark humor a plus. ☎3019

CARING AND DARING
Baring, caring, daring, sharing SWF, (25+), sought by short, funny, published scholar. She should be bright, not uptight, any height. ☎4165

FRIENDLY GUY
Witty, smart SM, 35, black hair, blue eyes, likes art museums, ocean, zoos, sporting events, working out, sailing, socializing. Seeking friendly, hard-working, athletic, professional woman, 21-35. ☎4988

SEXY SINGER
SWM, 22, 6', brown/blue, athletic and much more. Currently a Master's student in Voice. Seeking humorous SWF, 19-24, who enjoys music, movies, just hanging out. ☎4814

KINDRED SPIRITS
Cute, nerdy boy, late-20s, seeks romantic girl for playful, creative, intelligent, passionate, unconventionally eclectic, curiously mystical, imaginatively spiraling fun. ☎4812

ADVENTUROUS
Creative SWM, 36, very good looking, athletic, energetic guitar player, educated home/business owner, seeks attractive, adventurous, humorous woman. ☎4845

SEEKING FUN GIRL
Fun, smart SWM, 22, with great sense of humor, enjoys playing pool and partying. Seeking SF, 21-23, for friendship first. Race unimportant. ☎4782

UNFORGETTABLE
Thoughtful, attractive, fun, flexible, intimate, passionate, laid-back, funny, nice guy, bad boy professional SWM, 29, seeks someone who will talk, laugh, and play with me. ☎4628

ENTREPRENEUR
Self-employed, humorous, good-looking, cerebral/thoughtful SWM, 6', 195lbs, interested in sports (esp. tennis), martial arts, travel, and reading. Seeking SPF for one-on-one encounters. ☎4611

SEEKING COOL GIRL
Friendly, intelligent, and single! 29, 6'1", athletic, long red hair, blue eyes, tats, enjoys music, art, movies, bike riding. Seeking a cool SWF, 21-34, attractive, outgoing, for friendship/relationship. ☎4510

REAL LOVE
Super intelligent, handsome, ultra-talented, very humorous, secure, passionate, confident male, 28, loves music, dancing, more. Seeking similar beauty, 18-48, for magic. ☎4449

SARCASTIC AND SHY
Quirky SM, 34, 6'2", brown eyes, enjoys Being John Malkovich, Lucinda Williams, beat authors, John Cusack movies. Seeking funky, professional female, 25-35, for dating. ☎4414

ITALIAN
SWCM, 30, tall, dark, attractive, in good shape. Seeking SF for friendship, relationship. Please be honest, attractive, in shape. Let's talk. All calls answered. ☎2171

RED-HEADS ADORED
Professional SWM, 34, seeks attractive, intelligent, warm SWF, 21-35, for weekend get a ways, city fun, dining in ethnic restaurants. ☎4867

THE REAL DEAL
SWM, 26, aggressive, sensitive, loves music, travel, cartoons, seeks cute, spontaneous, partner in crime, 24-30, to experience love, life, and happiness. Hip-hop lover a plus. ☎4177

WINGS OF HOPE
Thoughthtful, fun, romantic SWM, 21, non-smoker, enjoys museums, plays, outdoors.Seeking magical romantic, honest female, 18-25, to sweep mee off my feet. ☎4977

CAPE COD GUY
SWM, 38, 5'5", 140lbs, brown/hazel, athletic build, enjoys many activities. Seeking honest SF, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎4967

ADVENTURES GUY
SWPM 33, N/S, college grad, enjoys motorcycles, Indian food, motorcycles, skiing, the beach. Seeking intelligent SWF for fun and friendship. ☎4955

PLAYS WELL...
with others. Emotionally/financially secure, physically fit, handsome SWM, 33, 6', 190lbs, seeks realistic, attractive, fit, fun, open-minded, grounded SF, 23-33, dating. Satisfaction guaranteed. ☎4936

CAN YOU HELP?
Good looking, hard working, goal oriented SWM, 5'7" 155lbs. hazel eyes, seeks petite, athletic female, 18-24, for fun relationship ☎4903

OUTDOORS MAN
Gay WM, 31, 5'7", 160lbs, black/green, enjoys fun and adventurous times, outdoor activities, time alone with someone special. No overweights. ☎4909

ATTRACTIVE, FUN
Considerate, attentive, energetic, romantic, passionate WM, 49, seeks intelligent, active, fun-loving, honest, open-minded, passionate, attractive woman, 35-50, with confident attitude and a wild streak! ☎4877

NO TIES FOR NOW
Cute, financially secure, skin color blind arts lover, 32, 5'8", 140lbs, musician, seeks simple, fun woman for good laughs, tasty dinners, and misty mornings. ☎4093

SHOPPING?
Very attractive, affluent DWM, 37, kind and funny, seeks very attractive, petite, style conscious companion, 20-40, for dining, shopping, movies, etc. ☎4783

I GET ROAD RAGE...
but i drink hot chai tea to chill out! Me: artistic, adventurous, attractive SWM, 28. You: attractive, interesting female, 18-26. No zombies! ☎4099

LOOKING FOR LOVE
Good-looking, easygoing SPM, 6'3", 190lbs, dark/dark, likes music, Fanuel Hall, weekend getaways, outdoors. Seeking open-minded, fun, romantic, spontaneous, caring, understanding female, 30-48, similar interests. ☎3544

FIRST THINGS FIRST
Hard-working, handsome gentleman, BM, 25, 5'9", enjoys movies, sports, bowling, and billiards. Seeks a lady with a charming personality, great smile, and positive attitude. ☎3859

ROMANCE
DWM, 39, fire-fighter, enjoys cooking, movies, live bands, dancing, and just hanging out with someone fun. Seeking S/DWF, for possible long-term relationship. ☎4697

SMART AND FUN
SWM, 24, regular smoker, enjoys playing rugby, pub hopping, and lots of other stuff. Seeking smart and fun SF. ☎4610

GUITARIST SEEKS...
nice girl. Musician, guitar player, 20, seeks an honest, down-to-earth, non-materialistic, cute woman with a sense of humor. ☎4626

NEW YEAR TRUE LOVE
SWM, 34, 5'7", 180lbs, brown/brown, fit. Seeks slender, fun, energetic, freak girl, 24-34, for fun and romance. ☎4590

ARTSY, LITERARY
Tall, intelligent, calm, good-looking SWM, 39, enjoys literature, movies, music, theater, the arts, mountain biking, dry martinis. Seeking witty, vibrant SF, 30ish, for conversation, more. ☎4461

NEW TO BACK BAY
Tall, dark and handsome SBPM, 33, seeks SF, 25-35, who enjoys sports, music and art. Must have open mind, quick wit and sense of humor. ☎4439

HELLO
Educated SWM, 27, seeks attractive, intelligent, humorous SF, to enjoy the city. Humor is a big plus! ☎4434

DIG THIS
Outgoing, sincere SWM, early 30s, tall, successful, seeks chubby/cute SAF to explore Boston. ☎4426

ALONE AND LONELY
SWM, 37, seeks honest, attractive, loving SF for friendship first, possible committed, long-term relationship. ☎4436

TALL DARK HANDSOME
SWM, 30, 6'3", fit, very cute, laid-back, independent, funny, non-materialistic, likes music, travel, being kinky, seeks cute SWF, 24-33, for casual dating. ☎1835

Tall, intelligent, quiet SWM, 26, seeks athletic, slim, intelligent female, under 35, any race. ☎3409

AMAZING, WONDERFUL
Attractive SWM, 29, good listener, daydreamer, enjoys conversations, outdoors, dancing, music. Seeking sweet, kind SF for friendship, dating, possible long-term relationship. Good talkers welcome - don't be shy, call! ☎4669

SUBMISSIVE MALE
45 years old, 6', good shape, college graduate, considered handsome and funny, seeks strong-minded woman, who enjoys exploring her dominant side. Smoker, social drinker ok. ☎2844

1962 MODEL SWM
No dents, few scratches, runs on regular. 5'11", 180lbs, brown/blue. Enjoys travel, ethnic foods, live music, working out, comedy clubs. Looking for a fun, fit, attractive gal who is not afraid to challenge me to a wrestling match and believe you'd win. ☎3515

NON-ORDINARY
SJM, 42, learned, artistic, funny, reliable, interested in hiking, chess, magic, mythology, and unorthodox Judaism. Seeking non-ordinary woman of unrecognized merit for long-term relationship. ☎2169

ARTISTIC GUY
Handsome SWM, 37, 5'8", brown/hazel, plays piano, enjoys photography, arts, walking, tennis, ocean, movies. Seeking open-minded, fit, humorous, playful SF, 30-40, friendship, maybe more. ☎9151

AESTHETICALLY AWARE
Tall, Attractive SWM, 41, sure to make you smile, interested in tennis, skiing, music, appreciate art, film, wine, and ideas. boundless energy, balanced, good ear and great heart. well read/traveled, love to laugh, converse on many subjects. Seeks genuinely fun, fit, intellectually alive SWF, 31-41, with real depth and humor. ☎5011

BLASTING
Single male, 37, is just looking to have a little fun. Seeking female, 18+, to share new adventures with. Non-smoker. ☎4981

KICK IT
Professional DWM, 35, 6', 180lbs, funny and dependable, into: snowboarding, friends, travelling, softball, and FNX. You: Sporty, sincere, boarder, and ssssssssassy SF! ☎5010

YANG SEEKS YIN
SAPM, 55", N/S, enjoys many activities, seeks attractive, loyal, honest, loving SAPF, 22-32, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎4965

RESCUE ME
Good-looking SWM, 33, seeks mature, sophisticated, attractive humorous SF, 33-45, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎4972

FUN FOR ALL
SWM, 29, N/S, enjoys cooking outdoors, sports, hanging out at home. Seeking educated, honest, confident SF, with similar interests, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎4956

2001 ODYSSEY
Handsome, well-educated teacher, 30, non-smoker, seeks very attractive woman, 21-35, who loves dancing, outdoors, travel, beaches, adventure. ☎4935

WM SEEKS SFM
Fun, adventurous, outgoing man, 21, likes sports, hiking, camping, romance. Seeking spontaneous female, 18-25, with same interests, for fun, loving relationship. ☎4911

FUNNY, CONFIDENT
Sarcastic, sincere, honest SM, 35, likes to be challenged. Seeking confident, beautiful, well-groomed woman, 24-34. ☎4914

SEEKING COMPANION
Single white male, 38, no children, smoker, seeks female companion, 25-40, for fun, friendship, and possible relationship. ☎4889

MALE, 24...
Seeking nice, genuine female, 21-45, who likes sports, going out with friends, and having fun together. N/S. ☎4893

SMART & SEXY
Single black Catholic male, 38, non-smoker, seeks female, 25-40, for fun times, friendship, and possibly more. ☎4880

OLDER WOMAN
Single white Catholic male, 24, seeks an older woman to share fun times with. Give me a call! ☎4882

BOSTON
Single white male, 24, non-smoker, seeks female, 20-25, for fun and companionship, possible relationship. Let's get together! ☎4884

CREATIVE CLASSY
Fit, single black musician, 59, 6', non-smoker, great sense of humor, seeks female 39+, for dating, possible long-term relationship. ☎3636

BEAUTIFUL DAY
Easygoing DWM, 41, enjoys music, golf, hockey, fine dining. Seeking intelligent, attractive, fit S/DWF, 32-42, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎3621

GONE SKIING
You skid mid-week at Cannon? I'm usually Front Five, on old equipment. Single, 45, professional, 5'11", engaging, attractive, etc. (but my first interested loom in the gray matter). ☎4791

HELLO THERE!
Incredibly dependable, loyal SWM, 28, N/S, no children, seeks female, 19-27, for fun, friendship, possibly more. ☎4865

ALONE & PARTICULAR
DBM, 55, 6'4", 230lbs, younger-looking, small business proprietor, theatrically involved, seeks common sensed, intelligent S/DWF, 40-60, for friendship initially, romantic possibilities thereafter. ☎4804

EVERYTHING MATTERS
Loyal, peaceful SWM, 38, 5'5", 160lbs. dark hair, above average looks, nice build, good dresser, great cook. guaranteed to make woman, 23-37, very happy. ☎4842

MUSIC LOVER
Humorous, fun-loving SM, 43, 6', 165lbs, blonde/blue, N/S, enjoys travel, exercise, sports. Seeking SWF, 30-43, for friendship, possibly more. ☎2450

SEEKS ATHLETIC SWF
Down-to-earth, athletic, attractive SWM, 48, 6'3", 200lbs, enjoys sports, Boston and much more. Seeking attractive SWF, to enjoy what life has to offer. ☎2846

STATUS QUO FIGHTER
Good-looking SWM, 22, 6'1", 185lbs, blond/blue, loves music, sports, reading, movies. Seeking SF for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. ☎4722

DEVOTED FATHER
Athletic, family-oriented DWPM, 35, author, scholar, enjoys Basia, Men in Black, Crossfire. Seeking S/DWF, 21-38, for long-term relationship. Looking for security, love, respect, everlasting happiness? ☎4704

MISSION POSSIBLE
Enjoying good times, friendship, companionship, romance. Begin adventure on land, sea, air, exploring beaching, restaurants, boating, fun places, with white male, early 50s. South Shore. ☎4670

TALK TO ME
Mostly idealistic, laid-back, not materialistic, occasionally cynical, impassioned SWM, 32, enjoys movies, theater, hanging out, but also, hiking, volleyball, live music. Seeking SWF, 23-32, mixing sarcasm, sweetness, more blue jeans than evening gowns. ☎4654

EXOTIC SOULMATE
Great life and friends, just need you to share it with. Tall, dark, handsome, and fit, 40, looks 30, seeks Latina/black/Asian mix, all three a plus, 28-35, non-smoker, fit, and happy, for food, wine, music, and smiles. ☎4602

FUN FUN FUN
Italian SWM, 23, enjoys working out, healthy eating, having fun, Seeking mature, attractive, fit SWF, 22-30, for dating. ☎4686

I'D LOVE TO!
Fun, outgoing SWM, 25, likes going out and having fun, clubbing, hanging out with friends. Seeking beautiful, fun SWF for dating. ☎4691

FRIENDLY
SWM, 32, 5'7", 165lbs, likes movies, music. Seeking SWF, under 32, for dining out, friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎4698

CUTE ITALIAN
Good-looking, clean-cut SWM, 35, 6', 195lbs, dark/brown, good shape, enjoys sports, arts, movies, music, dancing, outdoors, beach. Seeking SWF, similar interests, possible long-term relationship. ☎4710

TALL MUSCULAR
This SWM, 35, N/S, no children, seeks a healthy, fit, fun female, 40+. Give me a call. ☎4640

LOOK 4 COOLNESS
Successful, professional WJM, 25, enjoys electronic/classical/jazz music, clubbing, art museums, shopping. Seeking a lady, 21-28, with similar interests. ☎4644

QUALITY SOUGHT
This WJF, 23, no children, non-smoker, seeks a financially secure, hard-working, well-educated, sexy professional male, 18+. ☎4651

ENTHUSIASTIC
Energetic, thoughtful SM, loves Star Wars, theater, performance art, restaurants, museums, movies. Seeking creative female who accepts people for who they really are. ☎4627

FEMINIST/PACIFIST
Inquisitive SWM, blond/green, enjoys music (Radiohead, The Cure, Smashing Pumpkins), mocha brownies, reading, writing, dancing. Seeking sincere, intelligent, curious, creative, musical SF for relationship. ☎4632

BOATING PARTNER
Adventurous, stable, financially secure SPM, 48, seeks honest S/DF, 35-45, for boating, travel, fine dining, movies, good times, for long-term relationship. ☎4633

THE GOOD LIFE
Young, funny, adventurous SHM, 22, N/S, likes travel, new experiences, photography. Seeking female, 18-23, to have fun with. ☎4594

BEST $100 SPENT
SWM, 28, 5'8", 185lbs, brown/blue, enjoys movies, dining, outdoors, motorcycle riding. Seeking SF for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. ☎4564

MOST WISE MUSIC
Intelligent, musical, creative DWM, 37, 5'9", blonde/blue, enjoys blues/jazz music, deep conversation, and romantic moments. Seeking offbeat, intelligent, nurturing 35-40ish S/DW/BF, to share possible LTR. ☎4484

ARE ALL YOUR...
friends married? Mine are. SWM, 36, seeks SWF, 25+, for dining, movies, ski trips, or just cuddling on cold winter nights. Seeking someone who enjoys the outdoors. ☎4409

UNDO YOURSELF
Do you have creative passions that transcend consumerism and social acceptance? Beautiful, dedicated, adventurous mister sir wants to be with you. You will not be disappointed. ☎3260

LIMITED OFFER!
Unique self-employed, big-hearted, family-oriented, fun man, 39, seeks soulmate/best friend to share flowers, candlelight dinners, spontaneous trips. Don't be left out, won't last long! Thanks. ☎2247

I'M SEARCHING
Catholic SWM, 29, seeks honest woman, 24-30, for truth in an otherwise amoral society, conversation about origami, 1970's children television stars, deep, philosophical, inane thoughts. ☎4373

METALLICA LOVER
SWM, 48, 5'10", 180lbs, smoker, occasionally drinker, hard worker, jeans wearer, likes simple things for long-term relationship. I'm faithful, upfront, honest, very romantic, and marriage-minded. ☎3170

LOVE IS EVERYTHING
SM, 53, 5'7", 146lbs, brown/green, health professional, into exercise, music, movies, church. Seeking confident, spiritual lady for friendship first. Bilingual a plus. ☎4497

VERY LONELY
SWM, 33, 5'9", 170lbs, black/blue, believe in completely adoring my lady. Seeking good woman for friendship, relationship, possible marriage. ☎4519

LOOKING 2 HAVE FUN
SWM, 23, N/S, seeks SF, age open, for fun, friendship and possibly more. ☎4457

NEW TO AREA
Educated SWM, 25, N/S, seeks cool, intelligent woman to get to know and hang out with. Friendship first. ☎4464

ASPIRING ARTIST
SWM, 19, 6'1", seeks caring, charismatic, attractive woman f, young woman to share artistic and musical interests. South Shore area. ☎4431

YOU LIKE INDIE?
Vegetarian SPM, 34, N/S, light drinker, enjoys indie music and films, cooking and snowboarding. Seeking compassionate, intelligent, open-minded SF, 18-35, for friendship. ☎4444

STUDENT TEACHER
SWM, college student, loves music, camping, teaching. Seeking smart, career-oriented SWF, 21-35, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎4445

CAPE VERDEAN WIFE
Attractive SM, 37, 5'10", 170lbs, seeking attractive, slim, sexy, petite, SBF, 27-35, for committed long-term relationship, leading to marriage. Serious replies only. ☎3705

BONANZA!!!!
SWM, 42, smart, like Adam, rugged, like Hoss, and romantic like Joe. Seeking affectionate young woman, 25-45, for lifetime of love and lust. ☎4415

SEEKING THE ONE
Intelligent, adaptive, modest SM, seeks intelligent, naturally beautiful (in every way) companion. ☎4407

SHORT BUT SWEET
Honest, easygoing SWM, 30, 5'2", 115lbs, enjoys dining, theater, movies, billiards, anything except bar/club scene. Slightly handicapped. Seeking SWF with similar interests. ☎4410

ATHLETIC GUY
Adventurous, outgoing SWM, 40, 5'9", 150lbs, brown/blue, enjoys music, rock climbing, athletics, reading. Seeking fun-loving, easygoing SF, 26-36, with similar interests for LTR. ☎4375

SOMEONE FOR ME
Fun-loving SWM, 21, tall, smoker, seeks interesting, caring SF for night out, exciting experiences, and a caring long-term relationship. ☎4378

IF YOU'RE SINGLE, WE'RE FREE! TO PLACE YOUR FREE PERSONAL CALL 859-DATE OR EMAIL PHOENIXPERSONALS@PHX.COM OR GO TO WWW.THEPHOENIX.COM AND "CLICK" PERSONALS

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TO RESPOND TO PERSONALS CALL 976-3366 CALL COSTS $1.99 PER MINUTE. MUST BE 18+. OUTSIDE GREATER BOSTON CALL 1-900-370-2015

Guys seeking Gals

LOOKING FOR LOVE
Sincere, caring, romantic SHM, 36, 145lbs, brown/brown. Seeking good-hearted, kind, sincere SF, 23-29, for long-term relationship. ☎4384

PINCH YOURSELF
Ruggedly handsome DWM, 42, 5'11", 195lbs, excellent shape, enjoys sports, history, nightlife. Seeking attractive SF, 28-40, who wants to be treated like you dream about. ☎2890

BUSTY IS BEAUTIFUL
Young-hearted, active, outgoing SWM, 5'6", 150lbs, brown/hazel, clean-cut, nice physique, many interests including dining, shopping, working out. Seeking well-endowed female, 20-40, who wants a commitment. ☎1419

MOD WANNA-BE
Boyish, cute, fun, musician, 33, 5'8", seeks SF, 24-38, N/S, for Brit-music listening/dancing, running, television, traveling, cooking, skiing, hiking, dining out, more. ☎4158

ARMENIAN
Business owner: intelligent, attractive SWM, 33, 5'11", 195lbs, seeks average, easygoing female, 20-45, for lasting relationship. ☎4802

Sincere, fun-loving but career-oriented and family-focused SWM, 28, seeks like-minded SWF, 20-35, who wants to share life and love. ☎2361

FITNESS FEMALES
SWM, 33, 5'8", brown/brown, clean-cut, physically fit, Roman, seeks attractive soulmate, SWF, 25-35, for romance. Life's too short, be happy. ☎8873

LONELY
Intelligent, decent, good-looking DWM, 56, seeks soulmate for serious relationship. Age and race open. Be attractive and emotionally available. ☎3349

VERY ROMANTIC
Humorous, affectionate SWM, 43, seeks fun-loving, outgoing, commitment-minded SF sweetheart for lifetime of hugs, kisses, dancing, romancing. Serious calls only. ☎9031

PHILOSOPHER TYPE...
with vision to the stars, seeks trim dreamer, doer. Childless, I enjoy children, grandparents, film, science, Bach, history, nature, more. Slim SWM, 55, 5'10", worships depth of character. Tell me about your heroes? ☎1600

SEEKS MARYANN...
not ginger. Good looking, upbeat SWM, 37, 5'9", 175lbs, brown/blue, super nice guy, enjoys sunsets, puppies. Seeking S/DF, kids ok. Lets chase the dream together. ☎5004

NOT BORING
Professional SWM, 27, not your typical guy, likes skiing, tennis, walks, travel, bunjee jumping, flying. Seeking SWF, 27-34, to experience all life offers with. ☎4975

NEW IN TOWN
Adventurous Scottish guy, 22, 6'3", loves his job, travel, wild nights, hates hangovers. Seeking someone sincere to share passion for life. ☎4986

FRIENDSHIP NEEDED
Relationship hungry SWM, 32, 5'7", 145lbs, strong silent type, seeks emotionally open female for friendship and for sharing simple pleasures. ☎5008

ON SOCIAL SECURITY
Bi-polar, spiritual SWM, 53, looks younger, 5'9", 165lbs, blonde/blue, seeks Boston area S/DF, any race, medium build, who has character, good personality. ☎3571

LET'S GO SOUTH!
SWM, 32, N/S, enjoys scuba diving, sailing, running, swimming, the beach, cooking, travel. Seeking SF, 23-30, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎4968

WANDERLUST
SWJM , PhD, 37, 185 lbs, 6', active, boundless curiousity. Seeking JSWF my age or younger to share cultural experiences and romance. ☎4971

FUN FOR ALL
SWM, 29, N/S, enjoys cooking outdoors, sports, hanging out at home. Seeking educated, honest, confident SF, with similar interests, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎4959

LOOKING
Single male, 27, is looking for a big, beautiful woman, 18+, to call his own. Are you the one? ☎4926

WILD AND FUN
SM, 25, 5'7", 170lbs, brown/brown, in search of SF, 21-35, who likes to be spontaneous, adventurous, wild, and doesn't play games. ☎4931

HI HI HI
College educated single white male, 24, N/S, no children, seeks female, 18+, to spend quality time with. ☎4933

PROFESSIONAL
College degreed SWPM, 30, no children, non-smoker, seeks female, 21-35, to share interests and quality time with. ☎4912

LOST HEART
Lonely in Boston. SWM, 29, N/S, back from the West Coast, seeks trusted companion, 18-32. ☎4916

FINE
Successful SBM, 35, seeks fine, sexy female, 25-40, race unimportant, for friendship and maybe more. ☎4917

JUST COME OVER
SWM, 63, 5'8", 179lbs, enjoys dining, dancing, swimming. Seeking slim, attractive SWF, under 125lbs, for dating. ☎4908

LAID-BACK
Down-to-earth, open-minded, attractive SWM, 5'8", 165lbs, enjoys the beach. Seeking soulmate in SWF, 24-40, for friendship developing into a possible relationship. ☎3392

COUNTRY MUSIC PAL
SWM, 46, 5'11", 180lbs, salt-n-pepper hair, N/S, country musician/singer, seeks honest, wholesome, monogamous, fit, happy, healthy country girl, 36-47, for musical life. ☎4888

SEEKING A FRIEND
Single male, 31, seeks female friend to share interests with. What are you waiting for? Give me a call! ☎4894

SPIRIT OF DIONYSUS
Single white male, 24, non-smoker, seeks friendship and possibly more with a female, 21-26. ☎4900

SINGLE FATHER
Single white Catholic male, 39, with college degree, non-smoker, seeks the companionship of a female. ☎4901

WANT FUN ?
SM, 40, N/S, likes backgammon, raquetball, squash, hockey, and Club Med. Want a little fun? Let's hook up! ☎4878

LET'S LAUGH
Funny, bright, literate SWCM, 41, 5'8", 180lbs, father, enjoys history, music, chess, astronomy. Seeking pleasant, intelligent lady for companionship. ☎4879

CITY SLICKER
SWM, 31, seeks pretty SWF, 23-31, for travel, city slicking and kisses in the park. ☎4868

LOOKING FOR LOVE
African male, 5'6", 120lbs, average-looking, enjoys dining, playing pool, movies. Seeking attractive female, 18-32, no kids, for long-term relationship. ☎4806

NEW ADVENTURES
SWM, 39, 5'11", 193lbs, enjoys venturous, comedy, sports, trying new venturous things. Seeking SF, 22-50, for long-term, monogamous relationship. Please call. ☎2768

IDEA(L) PERSON
Multi-faceted, attractive SWM, 41, 5'11", 170lbs, aspiring song writer/comedy writer, seek creative type female, 23-49, for mutual support, encouragement, and "all that other good stuff". ☎2332

ADVENTUROUS
Stable, financially secure, honest SPM, 48, N/S, seeks honest S/DF who likes boating, outdoor activities, find dining, movies, quiet times, and adventurous times outdoors, LTR. ☎4613

ARE YOU HER?
Humorous, creative SHM, 30, enjoys sci-fi, movies, alternative music, dining out, working out. Seeking outgoing, adventurous SF, 25-35, for spending quality time with. ☎4673

OCEAN LOVER
Handsome SWM, 43, 5'11", 160lbs, grey/golden brown, intelligent, non-smoker enjoys boating, tennis, movies and music. Seeking S/DWF, 33-43, slim, pretty, enjoys same. ☎4677

SUBSTANCE
Outgoing SWM, 35, enjoys skiing, golf, boating, outdoors, family and friends, living life. Seeking attractive, down-to-earth, independent SWF, 25-35, to build a relationship with. ☎4678

PHISH
Phishboy seeks Phishgirl for soulmate, dancing, sharin' in the groove, and living life together between tour. ☎4682

WATERWORLD
WM, 54, enjoys beach, romantic candlelit dinners, fireplace cuddling, boating, movies, theater, cooking, exploring quaint ocean villages/hideaways in New England. South shore. ☎4671

ROMANCE 1ST
Forget one-weekend flings. Enthusiastic and hard-working SWM, 5'9", 150lbs, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks playful, romantic, petite SF to laugh with. ☎4641

CREATIVE GUY
College student by night, full-time worker by day, CM, 24, enjoys writing guitar/piano music, scribbling poems, and art. Seeking female, 19-23. ☎4642

FRIENDS FIRST
WCM, 29, not into bar scene, N/S, seeks active, attractive, down-to-earth female, 20-30, for friendship. ☎4645

NEW TO THIS
WM, 24, with a college degree, N/S, no children, is looking to find a woman, 18-26. ☎4646

THE REAL THING
Athletic, hard-working SWM, 24, enjoys hockey, snowmobiling, clubbing. Seeking a lady, 18-28, for confidant and friend. Blondes a+. ☎4650

SWEET LOVE
Good-looking, athletic, romantic, cuddly, sensuous SWM, 49, enjoys children, teddy bears, valentine's day, sweet love. Seeking true love to give all my love to. ☎4607

FUN WANTED
SWM, 27, seeks SF who finds that making others happy makes herself happy and who knows what she enjoys. ☎4618

LET'S GO OUT
and share drinks at DeLuxe, music in Central Square, art exhibits, racquetball, biking and long weekends at the beach. ☎4621

SOUTH SHORE MAN
Zero, non-smoker, 40s, seeks attractive, sensuous woman, for travel and adventure. ☎4622

AMERICAN MOVIES
Honestly? Peregrine SWM, 46, naturist, cineast, with a Bosox Cap, awaits call from SF, 30-50, matching my recorded greeting. ☎3350

KARAOKE CAMPER!
Exciting SWM, 27, smoker, enjoys Elvis, skiing, music, life. Seeking SF, 20-30, who' tired of being bored and wants to make the most of life. ☎4379

EXTREMELY HANDSOME
Humorous, creative, hard-working, Greek-American SM, 45, 5'11", blond/blue, good-natured, well-mannered, seeks woman to enjoy time with. ☎4495

FEELINGS MUTUAL
Seeking to share, aspire, enjoy, grow with a woman of grace, intelligence, vitality. Favorites include art, architecture, music, sports, socializing, politics. Looking long-term. ☎1789

ROCK-N-ROLL
SWM, 21, N/S, N/D, enjoys reading, rock shows, discovering new music, watching movies, playing saxophone and bass guitar. Seeking SF, 18-24, with similar interests. ☎4447

READY TO RIDE?
Successful SWM, 49, seeks SF, 30-43, for good times and possible LTR. Must like motorcycles (Harley-Davidsons), camping and fun. ☎4458

LOOKING FOR FUN
Open-minded DWM, 39, with varied interests, seeks open-minded SF, 18-50, for fun and dating. ☎4459

GUIDE NEEDED
Educated English SPM, 35, seeks SF, age open, to show me the secrets of Boston. Friendship first. ☎4463

I DONT BITE !
Easygoing SWM, 26, N/S, N/Drugs, enjoys cuddling, playing pool, movies, walks on the beach. Seeking SWF, 18-33, for dating, possibly more. ☎4470

LOOKS MATTER
Attractive, educated SWM, 29, N/S, seeks attractive SF, 21-31, for dating, possibly more. ☎4441

NO GIMMIE GIRLS
Independent, financially secure, down-to-earth SWM, 33, occasional smoker, seeks non-judgemental lady to join in mountain biking, cuddling, good conversation. Sincere responses only, please. ☎4377

YOUNG STUD
Catholic SWPM, 27, occasional smoker, new to the area, seeks SF, 18-40, to show me around the city and have a good time with. ☎4380

JAMAICA PLAIN AREA
Instructor/trainer, horses, DWM, 47, 6', bald, built, would like to meet long-haired, independent, attractive female. ☎3115

IGNITABLE
Emotionally/financially resolved, very attractive, trim, patient SWM, 40s, 6', shares the mirror, accommodates your sensitivities; film, dance, frolic. ☎9659

ESSENTIALS FIRST:
"If you are a woman who genuinely admires, and seeks to practice Ayn Rand's philosophy, please call." N.Y. Resident. ☎9362

CANDLELIGHT SEARCH
Handsome, trim WM, 6', unmarried businessman, seeks sensuous, philosophical SF, 40s, who enjoys music, dancing, film, intense conversations. ☎1933

Still waters run deep. SM, 49, 5'8", gentle, passionate, fun, Mediterranean colors, seeks attractive, family-oriented, earthy female, 35-45, to share yoga, gardening, inner life. ☎3950

OCEAN ADVENTURER
WM, 54, enjoys beach walks, exploring quaint ocean villages and hideaways, fireplace cuddling, romantic candlelight dinners with romantic WF, 30-55. ☎2302

WAITING FOR YOU
SJM, 48, enjoys sports, movies, reading, dining. Seeking S/DJF, 35-50, similar interests, for possible long-term relationship. ☎2373

FEMINIST
Responsive, shy, gentle, accommodating, loyal, sensual SBM, 42, with minor handicap, seeks sensual SF, 45+, who likes to lead. ☎3339

LOVE AND ROMANCE
Handsome SBM, 40, gentle, affectionate, would like to meet a full-figured, classy SWF, who likes to enjoy life. ☎3803

FREE WHEELING
SWM, 45, 5'11", 200lbs, brown/brown, mustache, full beard, enjoys antique cars, travel, camping, cooking. Seeking SF, 27-55, for dating, long-term relationship. ☎6170

ON THE ROCKS
SWM, 27, 6', professional, into adventure (getting out of bed), fine dining (take out), stargazing (zoning out), muzik (the Ramones to Meatloaf), folklore, and bad dancing. Seeking female with twisted sense of humor and wicked smile. ☎4267

HELP!
Outgoing, funny, nice SM, 29, enjoys sports (hockey and baseball), music, movies. Seeking outgoing, honest, fun-loving SF, 20-32, with good sense of humor, for possible long-term relationship. ☎4869

THE LONELY GUY
SWM, 34, seeks funny, romantic, down-to-earth, open-mined female, 25-38, height/weight proportionate for friendship and possible long-term relationship. ☎4870

MILLENNIUM FRIEND
SWM, 34, seeking full-figured, independent S/DWF, looks unimportant, light to non-drinker, for movies, music, talking, walks on beach, friendship/companionship. RI area only. ☎4786

PETITE WOMAN WANTED
Wanted by handsome, fit, sexy, loving, sensitive, Italian stallion SWM, 41, 5'9", entrepreneur, PhD, into romantic dinners, sunrises, shopping, dancing. Seeking SBF soulmate for love, friendship. Age open. ☎2453

EXCEPTIONAL SBF WANTED
Exceptional professional SWM, 39, 6', 185lbs, well-built, very attractive, and picky.. Seeking classy, attractive, slim but shapely SBF for special friendship, possibly more. ☎4112

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE
Honest, caring, attractive SWM, 35, 6', 185lbs, brown/brown, enjoys hiking, skiing, outdoors, travel, working out. Seeking attractive female, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎4638

EDGE DWELLER
SM, 18, 6', slim, muscular, mixed Native American/white, tattooed and pierced, into a wide range of music. Seeking woman of color, 18-25, to go to coffee shops, shows and movies. ☎4019

CHECK ME OUT
Boring salesman looking for a good girl! SWM, 24, likes punk rock and honest women. No games, no puzzles. If you want a nice guy, call! Seeking SF, 20-27. ☎4983

A TRUE ROMANTIC
Humorous, kind, loving, sensitive, romantic -SWM, 31, 6'2", 205lbs, goatee, tatoos, smoker, full-time student, enjoys nature, music, singing. Seeking good-looking, healthy, fit S/DW/AF, 21-36. Kids ok ☎4984

KICK START MY HEART
Funny, adventurous DWM, 42, 5'10", 165lbs, seeks exciting S/DF, 37-45, shapely, fit, for sharing laughs, dinners, dancing, and new adventures. Accepting resumes! Call! ☎4199

YING AND YANG
SWM, 48, kind, insatiable reader, seeks imaginative lady, 30-50, to share "the ten thousand things." ☎3953

FRIENDS
Attractive DWM, 40, height/weight proportionate, non-smoker, likes staying fit and active. Seeking S/DF, non-smoker, for conversation, dining, movies, etc. Lincoln area. ☎3489

NON-ORDINARY
SJM, 42, learned, artistic, funny, reliable, interested in hiking, chess, magic, mythology and unorthodox Judaism. Seeking non-ordinary woman of unrecognized merit for long-term relationship. ☎1861

HOT N' WILD
SM, 24, enjoys dining out, movies, quiet evenings at home. Seeking SF, any age, for friendship first, possible LTR. ☎4924

DOWN-TO-EARTH
Serious SBM, 23, N/S, enjoys dining out, movies, quiet evenings at home. Seeking SF, 18-30, for friendship first, possible LTR. ☎4928

KIND AND CONSIDERATE
Fit, active SWM, 6'1", 180lbs, likes animals, outdoors, interested in all sports. Seeking good-looking, well-built SF, who wants a lot of affection on a daily basis, for possible long-term relationship. ☎4939

LET'S SKI
SWM, early 40's, tall, dark, handsome, financially stable, business man. With positive outgoing, compassionate, witty nature, seeks very slender, non-smoking, adorable SWF skiing partner 30-45, winter fun on the slopes. ☎3508

UNIQUE COLORFUL
Lady (any color) desired by intriguing, fit, 50-something, financially secure, action-oriented Irishman, with proclivity for adventure, play, fun times, scenic/romantic places and atmosphere, and naturally whatever you enjoy! ☎1863

TATTOOED PRINCESS?
Outgoing SWM, 22, seagreen/blue, enjoys reading, beach walks, stargazing, billiards, movies, live events, hiking, biking, camping. Seeking S/DWF, 18-35, into tattooing/piercing, music. Can you teach me to dance? ☎4864

SM, 38, enjoys dining out, movies, quiet evenings at home. Seeking SF, any age, for friendship first, possible LTR. ☎4800

WATER SPORTS
Fit, handsome SWM, non-smoker, seeks attractive, slender, affectionate SWF, 35+, for walks on the beach and good times. ☎8748

RI/SEMA AREA
Adventurous, charming, stimulating, witty, secure, interesting, eclectic, senior DJPM, seeks special, tall, healthy, warm, spontaneous, sensitive, unencumbered, honest, good-looking, compatible, Virgo, Scorpio, Pisces, Cancer S/DWJF, 52-62, height/weight proportionate, non-smoker, relationship. ☎4776

THE TRUTH
Male seeks female who understands that we all make mistakes on the path to a higher love chose the path of love over nothingness all is forgiven by god. Peace. ☎4778

NORTHERN RI
DWM, 48, seeks easygoing SF, 40-50, for friendship and possible long-term relationship. Smoker and drinker ok. Call for more info. ☎1951

YOUNG LOVE
Intelligent, caring, fun SWM, 43, 5'8", 200lbs, Italian, attractive, handsome, great smile, enjoys singing, can cook a dinner to blow your socks off. Seeking S/DF, kids ok, no baggage. ☎3465

RELATIONSHIP DESIRED
SWM, 44, 5'11", 185lbs, brown/blue, seeks monogamous relationship with trim, voluptuous SF, 25-45, for potential marriage. Non-smoker, light, social drinker preferred ☎3967

A NICE SURPRISE
Pleasant, easygoing, professional SWM, 41, with a great smile, enjoys theater, sports, beach walks. Seeking outgoing, energetic, professional SWF, 35-43, for meaningful long-term relationship. ☎4056

ATTENTION LADIES
Not all the good ones are dead or married! SW bad boy, 50 going on 35, seeks good girl, 30-40, race unimportant, for fun in the sun, surf and snow, best friend and lover. Egri area. ☎4758

ESPAÑA
Degreed, educated HCM, 24, N/S, no children, bored with his life, seeks a fine young woman, 18-25, N/S, for relationship. ☎4753

LET'S BE REAL
SBM, 45, 5'81/2", seeking slim, honest SBF, 35-45, who enjoys dining, jazz, and quiet evenings. Honesty a must. ☎4763

IF NOT NOW, WHEN?
Kind, decent, bright. creative, attractive SWM, 42, 6', 200lbs, smart, interesting, fit, modest. Seeking attractive SWF, 30-40, for friendship and more. ☎3707

DANCE WITH ME
Young-looking, trim DWM, 40ish, wants to have spontaneous fun, likes travel and much more. Seeking attractive S/DF, 35-44, slim/medium build, for long-term relationship. ☎3463

Ask the Advice Goddess BY AMY ALKON

Freedom Of The Repress

Three weeks ago, a really wonderful woman asked me out. Because she lives an hour away, we spent quite a few nights getting to know each other on the phone before we went out on dates. I found myself falling for her pretty hard. We last saw each other this weekend when we went out to celebrate my birthday. Everything was great...until she got home. Her ex-boyfriend dropped by her place and professed his love for her. He said he wants to get back together and make things work. His visit brought back her old feelings for him. Now I'm worried that I'm going to lose her just as we were starting a relationship. She is the first woman who's ever made me feel I could settle down and have a family. What can I do to prove that I am the one for her? --Three's A Crowd

Right now, your heart is probably telling you something along the lines of "Curl up in a fetal position on her doorstep and rock back and forth, moaning, 'Pick me, pick me, or I'll wither and die.'" Then again, maybe your heart favors a more aggressive approach, like hiring a band of elves to belt out Michael Bolton covers on her front lawn until she either puts out her eardrums with a screwdriver or agrees to be yours forever.

It's important to listen to your feelings. And if you'd like to have any chance with this woman, it's even more important to shove them out of the way. It would be different if you had a relationship with her. But, you don't. You have the larva of a relationship. The waxy buildup to a relationship. The no man's land between "Is this seat taken?" and "Hi, honey, I'm home." That's why wearing your heart on your sleeve would be a big mistake; that is, unless you'd like to know firsthand how it feels to have a vital organ pecked apart by crows.

You have to play it cool. Take your direction from Hollywood. Generally speaking, the stars who seem the coolest are those who speak the least to the press -- maybe because being the silent type is cool, but probably because anybody who's basically an ego in search of a landing pad is about as conversationally compelling as your couch.

Tell this woman how you feel about her, including why you like her, but do it in moderation. This means telling her once. Do not whine, beg, or threaten to drown yourself in Liquid Paper if she picks Lunko over you. Do include the part about seeing potential for the future: "When I look into your eyes, I see diaper rash!" Well, maybe not in exactly those words.

Once you've given her the message, you're done. You've done all you can. Don't write, don't call, don't send her little chocolate statues of you naked. All you can do is wait for her to decide between you and The Lunk.

She does have a history with Lunko. There's no way you can compete with that; not after knowing her for three weeks. Then again, history isn't always pretty. The Huns sacking Europe -- that was history. And lemme tell you...it wasn't much fun for the sackees.

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Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave, #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail AdviceAmy@aol.com (www.advicegoddess.com)

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SINCERE & RELIABLE
Slim SWM, 60, 5'6", enjoys movies, walks, music, dining out and some travel. Seeking a slender S/DWF, 37-58, non-smoker with good morals for long-term relationship. ☎4630

MY SPECIAL WOMAN?
Sensitive, quiet, intelligent SM, 43, blue eyes, likes Casablanca, anything chocolate, old movies, writing, pondering the meaning of life. Seeking intelligent, imaginative, caring, sensitive, African-American woman, 35-50, for long-term relationship. ☎4295

EASY GOING MALE
DWM, 34, 5'7", 150lbs, enjoys the beach, long walks, cooking, sports, concerts, dining out, dancing. Seeking SF, 21-31, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎4962

NEED A BREAK?
Grown-up kid needs a break from life. SM, 27, N/S, seeks a friend who is also eternally young-at-heart. ☎4915

SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN
Attractive, big, huggable, gentle, teddy bear type DWM, 52, 5'11", educated professional, enjoys cuddling, movies, dining, good conversations, just moved here from South Carolina. Seeking smart, attractive lady, 20-65, to show me around town and to have fun. ☎4937

EXPERIMENTATION
Single white male, 32, smoker, college educated, seeks female friend, 25-35, who likes experimenting with new adventures. ☎4891

CHECK IT OUT !!
SM, 35, looking to meet someone who enjoys the outdoors, skiing, boating, hiking, beach or just stargazing. You should also have a sense of humor, stranger the better! ☎4895

SHEER PARADISE
...with handsome, fit, caring, sincere DWM, seeking reasonably fit, attractive female, 40s+, boating, exercise, music, waterfront home. ☎4792

JUST FOR FUN
Good-looking SWM, 29, loves sports, mountain biking, hiking, animals. Seeking fun, attractive, easygoing female, 25-35, who likes to go out and have fun. ☎4787

PORTLAND
SWM, 25, 5'8", 150lbs, seeks attractive woman for get-togethers. I am willing to try new things. ☎4788

SM, 62" 230LBS...
black/hazel, average build, seeks female, 22-28, for sports, movies, having fun, dancing, clubs. Let's meet! ☎4789

LOOKIN FOR FUN?
Cute, shy SWM, 22, seeks female, 18-32, interested in mountain climbing, hanging out at home, sports, clubs, and trying new things. ☎4772

WHATS UP GIRLS?
SWCM, 18, enjoys partying. Seeking sexy female for friendship first, eventual relationship. Give me a call! ☎4773

GuysseekingGuys

JUST BETWEEN US
Attractive, professional BiWM, 34, 6', blond/hazel, muscular, seeks attractive, straight appearing, professional BiWM, 35+, for casual, intimate relationship. Southeastern MA. ☎4756

CENTRAL MA BEAR
SWM, 36, 5'11", 237lbs, well-educated, professional very masculine and not into scene, Seeking male, 25-45, for friendship or (?) ☎2419

DOMESTIC STUD
Very cute, clean-cut GWM, 30, 5'10", 170lbs, muscular build, nice legs, enjoys cooking, cleaning, martinis. Seeking smart, masculine, aggressive, well-built, successful top. ☎4427

HIGH QUALITY WM
Good-looking, fit, fun WM, 30, closeted, very athletic, seeks similar young/cool, inexperienced, quality WM, for friendship, sports, beer, hanging out. ☎4383

Very good-looking, masculine, student, 25, light brown/hazel, fun, athletic, seeks similar guy for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎9035

OUTDOORS MAN
Athletic, muscular, masculine GWM, 33, 5'11", 180lbs, seeks athletic, masculine GM, 24-35, not into scene, for good times, fun, and adventure. No fats/femmes, please. ☎2622

HANDSOME & MATURE
Handsome, well-built GWM, 55, seeks cute, fit GWM, 21-36, who enjoys the company of a mature man. ☎4907

IN SEARCH OF...
Masculine, healthy, fit SWM, 36, 6'3", 195lbs, brown/green, sense of humor, seeks masculine SWM for friendship first. Southeast MA area. ☎4709

MUSCULAR, ATHLETIC
SWM, 34, 6'2", 205lbs, solid muscular build, brown/blue, into lifting, skiing, mountain biking, beach. Very masculine and grounded. Seeking discreet guy, 25-40, similar interests, good looks/body. ☎4512

SMART IS SEXY
GAM, late 20s, 6', 155lbs, seeks handsome, masculine, educated man, 25-40, fit, for friendship and possibly more. Enjoy tennis, movies (indies and foreign), dining out, hiking, the beach, music, and theater. Southern RI. ☎4515

Spontaneous, outgoing GWM, 33, 5'11", 210lbs, brown/hazel, non-smoker, enjoys theater, independent films, reading, 70s-80s music. Seeking attractive GWM, 30-45. ☎8706

SOUTH OF BOSTON
GWM, 30, 6'3", 210lbs, brown/brown, goatee, seeks educated, athletic, handsome guy with whom to fall in love and grow old together. ☎4091

HEY THERE
Masculine, sexy, handsome, considerate, understanding, Portuguese-French SM, 37, 5'7", 160lbs, brown/brown, goatee/sideburns, enjoys workouts, friends/family, dinners, movies, camping. Seeking sincere, masculine, independent man for dating. ☎4009

MUSCULAR JOCK
GWM, 37, 5'7", 185lbs, very muscular, masculine, enjoys working out, dining, travel, seeks same between 25-40, for dating, possible long-term relationship. ☎3034

PRIME CUT
Tall, thin, masculine, easygoing, attractive GWM, 25, 6', 32 inch waist, just looking for a likeable guy, 18-29, for possible long-term relationship. ☎3989

CATCHY PHRASE HERE
Attractive, masculine, educated professional BM, 48, 165lbs, non-smoker, seeks another attractive, educated, in shape guy, 30-43, for friendship and more. Let's talk and maybe meet. ☎3361

PLAYS IN THE MUD
But cleans up well. 35, 5'11", 175 grounded, spontaneous, professional, childish, athletic+manly.You= under 40, in shape, attractive with substance for friendship+more. ☎3123

SPECIAL DELIVERY
Very masculine, handsome, clean-cut, professional, romantic, all-American man, 5'9", 173lbs, great cook, enjoys giving massages, outdoors, weekend trips. Seeking masculine, muscular GWM, 32-45, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎7779

LOVER OF LIFE
Youthful, energetic, handsome, professional, physically fit BiWM, 40, 150lbs, dark/dark, many interests, seeks emotionally secure WM, 25-45, to develop a great relationship. ☎2509

GRAPPLERS
WM, 40s, 5'9", 170lbs, good shape, enjoys wrestling, boxing, grappling, arts, travel, movies. Seeking healthy, pleasant, like-minded guy for workout partner. ☎4198

COMING SOON
Nice looking, healthy and strong professional SWM, 39, 6', 170lbs, brown/blue, willing to meet similar guy, under 43, hairy a plus. ☎4872

REAL JOCK GUY...
32, 5'9", 155lbs, toned, very masculine (looks/act/sound), cool guy seeks in shape, rugged, bigger (than me), masculine, genuine, totally non-scene guy, 28-38, for dating, more. Be real. ☎2794

BE MINE
SWM, 42, 5'9.5", 190lbs, brown/brown, hairy chested, seeks masculine, down-to-earth man, 30-35, for friendship/possible relationship. ☎4793

YOU: AN AVERAGE JOE
GWM, 31, 5'10", brown/brown, looking for your average joe. Be 35-45, truck driver a+, who's not into bars. You must love to cuddle on a cold winter night! Fairhaven, Mass area. ☎3516

DAD SEEKS LAD
GWM, 50s, 5'7", 150lbs, seeks young, very slim, smooth male for good times. Oxford/Webster ☎2269

SWM, 22, 6', brown/brown, enjoys bowling, playing pool, and going out. Seeking clean, discreet, drug-free SWM, 18-22, for friendship, possible relationship. ☎4003

TABLE FOR TWO
Romantic GWM, 39, 5'10", 155lbs, blue eyes, shaved head, goatee, lets have dinner, get to know each other, and take it from there. ☎3510

A RARE FIND
Heavyset, educated teddy-bear GWPM, 45, enjoys travel, dining out, books, day trips, dogs, good coffee. Seeking honest, caring, deeply committed man for long-term relationship. ☎4810

BOY SEEKS BEAR
Good-looking, boyishly handsome SWM, 25, 6', 165lbs, brownish hair, seeks SM, 42-53, for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. ☎4720

LOOKING FOR TYRESE
Lean, muscular, masculine BM, 44, 5'11", 175lbs, seeks young Tyrese-type, 19-26, for friendship, maybe more. ☎4696

BUDDY SOUGHT
Good-looking, discreet, accommodating GWM, 41, 5'6", 130lbs, brown/blue, seeks masculine, fit, hairy guy for friendship plus. ☎4705

GOOD-LOOKING
Young-looking WM, 29, 5'8", 135lbs seeks stylish, cute man, 21-31, for clubbing, shopping, movies, and hanging out. ☎4653

NORMAL BLOND MALE
Seeking same. Friendly, easygoing, sincere SM, 39, north of Boston, enjoys sports, music, travel. Seeking SM for friendship, long-term relationship. Spiritual bears encouraged to respond. ☎4587

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Easygoing, sincere SM, 32, 5'6", 130lbs, enjoys reading and music. Seeking very handsome, preferably college-educated SM, 18-30, for a long-term relationship. ☎4530

HE'S HERE
You're WM, 40, 5'10", brown/brown, dark skin awaits. This man of virtue offers and expects peace, love, understanding, and honesty from attractive woman, slim/medium build. ☎3745

LOOKING FOR FUN
Clean-cut, good-looking, professional guy, 29, seeks clean-cut, good-looking guy for good times. Asian male a plus. ☎4251

DORKY BABE SOUGHT
GWM kid, mid-40s, 5'9", husky, bearish, Buddhist, bald-buzzed, bearded, funny, pierced. You: 20s-30s, geeky, open-minded, fearless, fun, into music, 420, and us? ☎4273

CURIOUS
Bi-curious WM, 36, 5'9", 160lbs, seeks similar male, in the city or north. ☎4230

LOOKING FOR FUN
Me: 28, 5'7", 185lbs, Italian, Gemini, enjoys humor, spontaneity. Searching for cute, little, funny man, 21-29, who loves laughter, honesty, hockey, boating, great conversation, romance, and intrigue. ☎4216

SEEKING LIL BRO!
Attractive, muscular, affectionate, fun-loving GWM, 40s, 5'10", 180lbs, broad shoulders, seeks cute, boyish guy, 20-35, with swimmers build, for dating, romance, possible long-term relationship. ☎3990

LOOKING
Fun, outgoing Hispanic male, 36, seeks Spanish-speaking male, 18-45, for conversation, dancing, for friendship first. ☎4992

GOOD-NATURED...
friend, interested in ideas and ideals wanted for mutual admiration, and inspiration. Please have interesting life story and optimism about future. Race unimportant, but possibly Asian a+. Tall WM, 54, lonely to share. ☎1601

TALL CAPE GUY
Tall, strong attractive man, young 40, on Upper Cape, looking for LTR. Honest, sensitive, smart; loves outdoors, plants, critters, sailing. Be nice and be sincere. ☎4883

LOVE IN 2001
GWM, 50, 5'11 seeks outgoing, good looking, romantic man age 45-60. No head games, no bisexuals, who is looking for the true love relationship. ☎3971

BOYFRIEND WANTED
GWM, 40s, enjoys kissing, hugging, touching, loving, cuddling, and romantic intimacy. Seeking tender, gentle, passionate guy. ☎4755

PARTY PICS FROM THE ORIGINAL SIN BASH AT PRAVDA

SADE LOVER
SAM, 27, 5'4", 140lbs, into romance, enjoys dancing, music, movies, traveling. Seeking fun SM, 23-35, with interesting and quality character. Race unimportant. Show me Boston. ☎4372

WOONSOCKET AREA
Attractive GWM, 5'10", blue eyes, black hair, slim, 29" waist, caring and loving. Seeking slim, attractive GWM for friendship, possible relationship. Fems are ok. ☎1965

LET'S TALK
SWM, 37, 5'7", 158lbs, brown/brown, seeks SWM, 30-45, height/weight proportionate, not into club scene, for friendship, possible long-term relationship ☎4234

PROVIDENCE AREA
GWM, 25, 5'10", 160lbs, enjoys rock music, sports, tattoos, and piercings. Seeking male, 25-35, height and weight proportionate, with same interests. ☎4233

HUGGABLE
Attractive, honest, sensitive, straight-appearing, sincere GWM, 43, 5'11", 175lbs, seeks compatible, fair-complected, male, 35-45, to share sports, jazz/rock/pop concerts, feelings, friendship, affection, maybe more. No tattoos or bar scene. Metro-west. ☎4471

HEART OF GOLD
GWM, 30, 5'10", 130lbs, blue/brown, goatee/mustache, educator, caring, compassionate, sensitive, funny, enjoys history, art, outdoors. Seeking GWM, 22-40, slim, similar qualities for dating, long-term. ☎4813

SPECIAL GUY
SWM, mid-30s, 5'2", 128lbs, sandy-blond/blue-green, clean-shaven, romantic, passionate, very handsome. Seeking SWM, 23-36, good personality, no drugs, disease-free, friendship/long-term relationship. ☎4913

A BIG GUY FAN
Fun-loving, laid-back, sincere WM, 28, 6', 155lbs, handsome, masculine. Seeking stocky to very husky, masculine WM, 21-36, for long-term relationship. ☎2363

PHONE CALL AWAY
Good-looking, masculine, easygoing BiBM, 48, 6'1", 250lbs, friendly, clean, seeks masculine, fit, younger male, for friendship and/or more. Discretion assured. ☎2286

LEWIS SEEKS CLARK
GWPM, 39, seeks fellow adventurer, for long-term relationship, explore the great outdoors, exotic locales. Are you smart, savvy, caring, responsible, but crave adventure, spontaneity, passion? ☎3027

ME & YOU
GWM, 33, 5'8", 137lbs, short brown/hazel, enjoys beaches, parks, candle light dinners, cuddling, animals, movies, music. Seeking GM, with similar interests, for possible long-term relationship. Age/race open. Providence area. ☎4053

MUST BE IN SHAPE
Nice WM, 38, enjoys working out, travel, sports, Seeking Seeking GBM, 25-46, for fun filled times. ☎3954

LONELY AND LOOKING
Spontaneous, daring, in shape, Portuguese/English M, 26, 5'8", 130lbs, blackish brown/brown, non-smoker, seeks friendship, possible relationship with male, 19-45, 6'1"-6'2". No head games or fakes. ☎4527

BE MY VALENTINE
Youthful looking male, 28, 6'3", 200lbs, blonde/blue, very affectionate, not into club scene, seeks male of european origin. ☎4168

LOOKING FOR LOVE
Attractive SM, 23, 5'9", 145lbs, enjoys movies, music, quiet nights at home. Seeking emotionally open SM, 23-30, 5'11"-, for loving relationship. Tauton area. ☎2780

REGULAR GUY
Masculine, good-looking GWM, 37, 5'9", 180lbs, dark brown hair/eyes, in good shape, enjoys the gym, music, dining out, movies, biking, various other interests, monogamous relationship-oriented. Seeking similar GM. ☎4020

WORCESTER
GWM, 36, seeks rough, tough GWM, 18-50. Serious or non-serious can reply. ☎1545

CREATIVE, HONEST GWM
GWM, 34, 5'11", 140lbs, into independent films, art, hiking, biking, photography. Seeking same for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎2539

BOSTON
Very good-looking WM, 39, 6'2", works late, looking to meet evenings, Boston area, friendship, possible relationship. ☎4025

LOOKING FOR LOVE
SWM, 64, 5'9", 165lbs, seeks BiWM, under 55, for friendship, possible committed long-term relationship. Worcester area. ☎2671

TV
Mature, business professional, 62, 5'9", 155lbs, would like to dress occasionally with another tv or for an empathetic male, diverse femme wardrobe, friends first. ☎4635

AVERAGE GUY
BiWM, 48 (looks younger), 5'5", 135lbs, brown/blue, flat top, clean-shaven, safe, sane, masculine, funny, likes sports, talks, reading/writing, music, clubs, movies. Seeking fun, friendship more. ☎4508

FRIEND WANTED
GWM, 43, 5'8", 325lbs, brown/brown, enjoys walking, reading, movies. Seeking GWM, 18-50, for friendship or relationship. ☎4511

DEEE-GROOVIE!
Fun, intelligent, high-energy SWM, 22, 6'2", brown/blue, new to area, enjoys dancing, movies, music, among other things. Seeking fun GM for friendship, maybe more. ☎4432

SEMI RETIRED
SM, 61, 6'1", 225lbs, enjoys outdoors, fishing, walking. Seeking easygoing guy, similar age, for quality time and casual relationship. ☎3437

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Italian SM, 5'9", 170lbs, who enjoys dancing, candlelight dinners, and outdoor sports, seeks male, 40-60, race open, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎4592

SOUTHERN RHODE ISLAND
WM, 160lbs, 5'7", muscular, fit, attractive, clean-cut, non-smoker, professional. Not into scene or head games, seeks WM, personable, under 40, tall, dark, solid, reliable, companion, more. ☎4586

NORTHER RI
Straight-acting GWM, 38, 5'8", good shape/looks, enjoys easy outdoor sport. Seeking same for healthy, honest, hopefully long-term relationship. ☎4585

SEEKING LTR
SWM, 21, blond/blue, 175lbs, average build, seeks SW/BM, 18-25, slim/average build, for friendship or relationship. ☎4482

DECENT FRIENDS
Slim GWM, 30, 5'6", black hair and eyes, seeks decent friend to check out life with. ☎4215

SEEKING ROMANTIC MALE
GWM, 51, seeks romantic, passionate male for friendship, fun, and new adventures. Possible relationship. Smoker/social drinker ok. No drugs/head games. ☎6162

HEY YOU!
Cute, fit 23 year-old likes coffee, dinner, travel, clubbing. Looking for sincere, honest 23-35 year-old who is looking for someone to grow with. No games. ☎4309

OLD FRIENDS
Masculine senior citizen seeks non-sexual friendship with same for conversation, trips, beach combing, art, photography, cooking. Richard, phone number unclear. Call again. ☎4192

DOWN-TO-EARTH
GWM, 49, 6', 185lbs, athletic build, frequent traveler to RI area, varied interests, seeks similar, down-to-earth GM, 28-45, who's in shape, to share life's adventures, for friendship and more. ☎4063

SEEKS BLACK MALE
Sensual GWM, 47, 5'11", 195lbs, homebody, seeks slim, sensual, masculine, cuddly GBM, 40-56, for steady, possible long-term relationship. Lynn/North Shore. ☎1689

GWM, 52, seeks slim GM, 18-26, for meaningful relationship based on mutual respect, honesty, and love. ☎4217

NOT SERIOUS YET
Fun-loving, curious SM, 23, red/blue, military looks, self-employed, likes Chinese food, Limp Bizkit, clubs/bars, movies,..dining out, traveling. Seeking cute, young-looking guy, 18-25, for casual dating at first. ☎4104

CLOSETED MALE
Older, closeted BiM, mid-50s, looking for same, 18-25, for friendship. ☎8475

SOMEONE SENSITIVE
GWM, 47, 5'11", 142lbs, brown/hazel, seeks GAM, for friendship, possible relationship. Enjoy theater, the arts, dining out, quiet times at home, much more. ☎4784

BIG HUSKY MAN
BiWM, 40s, 6'3", 235lbs, likes working out, very masculine, enjoys movies, dining out, would like to meet a bi or straight man for fun, friendship, and more. South Shore area. ☎4997

GalsseekingGals

LETS GET TOGETHER
Attractive GWF, dark/hazel, 114lbs, feminine, seeks attractive GWF, 23-39, for friendship, maybe more. ☎4387

LOOKING FOR LOVE
GHF, 31, femme in search of soulmate: femme, attractive, smart, honest, respectful, to share and enjoy deep, meaningful, experiences and beautiful memories. ☎4113

ARE YOU TOGETHER?
SF, 30, fit, funny, tomgirl, femme, wicked cute, smart, friendly, outgoing. Seeks attractive, fit femme, woman, 23-35, to have fun with, in southern NH. ☎1202

SOUTHERN MI
Sincere, honest, compassionate, mature SWF, 22, 5'4", 120lbs, blond/green, femme, great sense of humor, seeks GF, 22-38, with similar qualities, possible relationship. ☎4288

GBF ON CAPE COD
43, 5'5", non-smoker, non-drinker, seeks feminine GF, who works in the health field, likes cats, biking, movies, music, dining, and quiet times at home. ☎4018

SMART AND SEXY
Sensual, feminine SHF, 38, seeks fun-loving, outgoing, affectionate SF who loves movies, quiet evenings, for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. ☎4566

SEEKING SOULMATE
Adventurous SWF, 28, 5'7", 165lbs, brown/blue, South of Boston, enjoys dog races, sunsets, poetry, music. Seeking down-to-earth, sensitive, compassionate, caring, open-minded female, for friendship first. ☎4281

STRIKE MY CHORD
SJF, 42, N/S, enjoys animals, musical theater, suspense novels, architecture and landscape. Seeking very feminine, educated SF, 32-52, to enjoy the finer things in life. ☎4961

LIFE
GWF, 25, enjoys music, movies, outdoors, and new adventures. Seeking honest, down-to-earth, mature GWF, to walk the roads of life. ☎4195

OPTIMIST
Outgoing, sincere, funny woman, 28, dirty blonde/blue, likes seafood, clubbing, movies, reading, Creed, Barenaked Ladies. Seeking loyal, honest, feminine, funny, caring woman, 25-35. ☎4090

LET'S GO GIRLS
Honest, erotic, sensual, adventurous BiWF, loves candles, boy talk, and open-mined, unique, sexy women. Let's go, girl, and try anything once, maybe twice. ☎4779

BE MY VALENTINE
Feminine, attractive, happy, stable GWF, 35, brown/brown, great sense of humor, likes music, dining out, great conversation. Would like to romance you. ☎4589

VIVACIOUS & WITTY
Sensual female, 40, brown/blue, likes water skiing, bowling, sailing, Italian food, reading, writing, cooking. Seeking mature, honest, upbeat female, 35-40, with sense of humor. ☎4517

JUST FRIENDS
Female, 28, looking to meet other females around my age, to go dancing, drinking, socializing, and to have fun. ☎3386

ADVENTURE
Single Catholic female, 82, has been exploring new adventuresall her life. Seeking female to share life with. ☎4974

CONNECTIONS
Open, spontaneous, adventurous female, 47, auburn/grayish-green, loves dance (any type), reading, exercising, playing piano, pasta and pizza. Searching for someone, 24-50, with similar interests, for friendship. ☎4990

FUN BI-FEMALE
Attractive, outgoing, sensual, fit female, 5'7", 125lbs, blonde hair, green eyes, loves shopping, hanging out, comedy clubs, quiet times. Seeking similar female, 25-39. ☎4874

SOMEONE SPECIAL
GWF, 44, 5'2", looking for women who are sincere, honest, down-to-earth, someone who likes dancing, music, beaches, the park, dinner, cuddling and so on. I'm waiting. ☎2090

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND
I am a SWGF, 36, wanting to meet a SGF, 45 or younger, for friendship and companionship. Lonely in Rhode Island. ☎4235

READY FOR LOVE
Attractive GWF, 54, enjoys music, reading, walks, fishing, quiet times. Seeking cute GF, 40-56, N/Drugs, with similar interests, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎4796

A NEW YEAR
GWF, 34, drug and alcohol-free, enjoys coffee, conversation, movies, reading. Seeking GWF, 30-40ish, with similar interests for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎3833

IN RHODE ISLAND
BiWF, 37, 5'4", 140lbs, seeks honest, down-to-earth SF for friendship first, possible committed, long-term relationship. ☎4546

LET'S SNUGGLE
Attractive, honest, sincere GWF, 35, incurable romantic, enjoys long beach walks, hiking, long weekend getaways, and candle light dinners. Seeking GWF, 30-45, similar interests and qualities, for possible long-term relationship. ☎4584

ROMANTIC
GWF, 56, 5'2", blonde/blue, non-smoker, enjoys music, dancing, travel, bicycling, and the company of a nice lady. Laughter is a must, life is too short. Seeking GWF. ☎3272

SEEKS EARTHLY DIVA
Cute GWF, 32, average height/weight, sense of humor, enjoys nature, outdoors, cultural events, and New Age philosophies. Seeking intimate friend for fun, frolic, deep thought, and romance. ☎4623

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP
Attractive SWF, 27, 5'3", 120lbs, enjoys outdoor activities, skiing, rollerblading, and night clubs. Seeking the same for fun, possibly more. ☎4637

ARGENTINE TANGO
Where are the women who lead? Follower seeking partner, dance with me. ☎5012

Feminine BiWF, 42, 5'2", size 16, likes Nascar, pubs, gambling. Seeking casual BiF, 30-50, race open, for friendship, easygoing relationship. Must be D/D-free. Central Mass. ☎3481

BI-YEARNING
BiBF, 30, enjoys music, philosophy and culture. Seeking college-educated SF, 25-35, who enjoys the arts, for friendship, conversation, possibly more. ☎4462

I KNOW YOU'RE THERE
GF, 50ish, with much younger ways, enjoys dining out, rides, movies, walks. I'd like to meet a lady, 50-65, who's down-to-earth, honest, sincere, trustworthy and can be herself. ☎2349

Eyecontact

ATTENTION
The nicest man I ever meet (in 96) was from Attleboro he drove a green Camary had a dog named Chance.Please call, I will explain everything, would love to talk. ☎4805

IF YOU'RE SINGLE, WE'RE FREE! TO PLACE YOUR FREE PERSONAL CALL 859-DATE OR EMAIL PHOENIXPERSONALS@PHX.COM OR GO TO WWW.THEPHOENIX.COM AND "CLICK" PERSONALS

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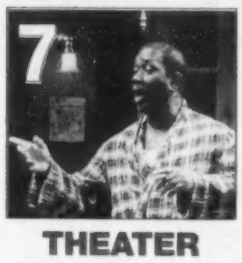
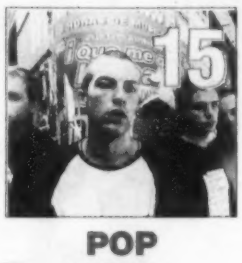
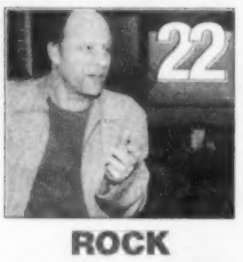


THEATER
The Piano Lesson

COMICS
Love and Rockets



POP
Coldplay



ROCK
Raisins in the Sun

BIGGER AND BETTER

ORBIT KEEP THEIR COOL

BY BRETT MILANO

Orbit have always been an easy band to take for granted. They came along in the mid '90s, when the last thing Boston seemed to need was yet another alt-rock guitar trio who looked good, played hard, and wrote catchy tunes. So though Orbit have never had a problem being well liked, they seldom turned up on the lists of Boston's hottest or hippest bands.

But a few years can make a lot of difference. And the louder and heavier things get in the mainstream, the hungrier one gets for an alternative — like, say, an alt-rock guitar trio that looks good, plays hard, and writes catchy tunes. That's still Orbit in a nutshell, and on their new disc, *XLR8R* (on drummer Paul Buckley's Lunch label), it's something to be proud of. The band are scarred but smarter after going through the major-label wringer. They've added two new members and gone the DIY route. But *XLR8R* shows that they haven't redefined their sound — just refined it.

Continued on page 20

RAISINS IN THE SUN PHOTO BY KELLY DAVIDSON

FILM

Real life

The HFA's Chinese films are essential

BY PETER KEOUGH

With *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* savoring its Oscar nominations and watching its box-office grosses break the record for a subtitled film, the Harvard Film Archive could not have picked a better time for its 11-film retrospective of recent movies from mainland China, "The Urban Generation: Chinese Cinema and Society in Transformation." Those expecting the high-flying antics characteristic of Taiwanese-American director Ang Lee's glorification of Hong Kong pulp fiction might be dismayed, but those looking for cinematic depth and nuance will find rewards.

The first films by members of the so-called Sixth Generation of filmmakers (*i.e.*, the sixth since the establishment of cinema in China), heirs to the imposing legacy of such world-class Fifth Generation masters as Zhang Yimou and Chen Kaige, these are not Westernized versions of Asian fantasies. Rather, they are intense reflections of present-day Chinese reality — glimpses of a society in transition and conflict, marked by rural tradition vying with urban "deca-

Continued on page 3

HOT TIX

Mark Knopfler, April 23 at the Orpheum Theatre: on sale Friday at 10 a.m., call 931-2000.

Women's Extreme Wrestling, April 7 at Avalon: on sale Saturday at 10 a.m., call 423-NEXT.

New England Metal and Hardcore Fest, including **Cannibal Corpse**, **Dimmu Borgir**, **Nile**, the **Haunted**, **Lamb of God**, **Malevolent Creation**, **Catastrophic**, **Monstrosity**, **Meshuggah**, **Amorphis**, **Opeth**, **Shadows Fall**, **Dying Fetus**, **Gorguts**, **God Forbid**, **Zao**, **Living Sacrifice**, **Diecast**, **Skinless**, **Exhumed**, **Hope Conspiracy**, and **Nullset**, April 13 and 14 at the Palladium, Worcester: on sale Saturday at 10 a.m., call (800) 477-6849.

'N Sync, May 31 and June 1 at Foxboro Stadium: on sale Saturday at 10 a.m., call 931-2000.

Badly Drawn Boy, April 30 at Avalon: on sale February 23 at 10 a.m., call 931-2000.

Nelly Furtado, April 7 at the Paradise Rock Club: on sale February 28 at 10 a.m., call 423-NEXT.

Dave Matthews Band, June 16 at Foxboro Stadium: on sale March 10 at 10 a.m., call 931-2000.

Xzibit and **Tha Liks**, March 7 at Avalon: call 931-2000.

A Perfect Circle, **Snake River Conspiracy**, and **Cave In**, March 8 at Brandeis University: call 931-2000.

Alice Dee Jay, March 8 at Axis: call 423-NEXT.

Blake Babies and the **Starlight Mints**, March 9 at the Paradise: call 423-NEXT.

"Ground-Control All Stars" featuring **Aceyalone**, **Ed O.G.**, **Rasco**, and the **Masterminds**, March 9 at the Middle East: call 864-EAST.

OutKast, March 11 at the Orpheum Theatre: call 931-2000.

Roni Size/Reprazent, March 15 at the Roxy: call 497-2229.

Wayne Brady, March 24 at the Orpheum: call 931-2000.

Idlewild and **Brassy**, March 27 at the Middle East: call 931-2000.

Big Apple Circus presents *Clown Around Town*, April 7 through May 13 at Fan Pier: call 931-2787.

Amy Ray and the **Butchies**, April 7 at Lili's: call 931-2000.

Frank Black and the Catholics and **House of Large Sizes**, April 9 at the Paradise Rock Club: call 423-NEXT.

98 Degrees, **Baha Men**, **Dream**, and **Debelah Morgan**, April 12 at the Worcester Centrum: call 931-2000.

Joshua Redman Quartet, April 14 at Berklee Performance Center: call 876-7777.

Brad Mehldau, April 19 through 21 at Scullers: call 931-2000.

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film

China syndrome

More angst than pranks in new Chinese cinema

CONNECTING: *the protagonists in* Call Me *fumble for human contact through a morass of modern technology.*

Continued from the cover

dence," state socialism challenged by individual autonomy, and the assurances of an all-powerful and intrusive state giving way to self-assertion, alienation, and anomie.

They are reflections of real life, but self-reflective as well. In *Crouching Tiger*, Lee unabashedly flaunts Hollywood influences. These filmmakers also draw on Western auteurs ranging from Michelangelo Antonioni to Krzysztof Kieslowski, from Roman Polanski to Martin Scorsese. Traces of *Blow Up*, *The Double Life of Véronique*, *Knife in the Water*, and *Taxi Driver* drift through Wang Quan'an's ***Lunar Eclipse*** (1999; screens February 24 at 7 p.m., with the director present), and for the most part the effect is not derivative.

A young woman with a heart problem gives up her ambition to become a musician and marries an older, wealthy businessman. While on a drive, they give a ride to a scruffy photographer who has snapped her picture; later, he confesses to her that she reminds him of another woman who has moved to the "South" (shades, too, of Alfred Hitchcock's *Vertigo* and Ye Lou's recent *Suzhou River*). The photographer's tragic past and the musician's empty future collide in a blithely elegant layering of mood, yearning, and memory.

As China develops into a capitalist, individualist society, the first thing on the minds of the masses, it seems, is to become rich and famous. As in *Lunar Eclipse*, the artistic path to success lures the protagonist in Lu Xuechang's ***The Making of Steel*** (1998; screens February 25 at 7 p.m., with the filmmaker present). As a young kid growing up in Beijing in the '70s, he's seduced by a local punk with a guitar, a gun, and a girl. He decides to become a musician, but he also admires the fragment of a book he found, a social-realist adventure novel called *The Making of Steel* that outlines the virtues for a revolutionary hero.

He finds those virtues embodied in a stoic railroad engineer (played by Fifth Generation director Tian Zhuangzhuang), but when his hero vanishes (after giving him a bone graft that saves him from being crippled), the youth pursues his music dreams to Berlin, where he discovers such Western pleasures as drug addiction. *Steel* at times gets a little too nostalgic for the good old days of Stalinist-style discipline, and its critique of "decadence" might please even the Catholic Family League, but the edits imposed by Chinese censors might account for these excesses.

Another, similarly themed film that also suffered censorship problems is Wang Xiaoshuai's ***So Close to Paradise*** (1998; screens February 25 at 9:30 p.m.). Two guys from the country move to the big city to make their fortune. One, a naive bumpkin, becomes a "shoulder pole" toting loads on the wharf. The other makes money the new-fashioned way through shady dealing. The two kidnap a Vietnamese girl aspiring to a singing career, and both fall in love with her. Unfortunately, she's the girlfriend of the local crime boss. It's a predictable *noir*, given depth by the dense ambiance, the illuminating look into contemporary Chinese social problems (yes, China has its version of *Cops* and reality TV), and the oblique dramatization of the conflict between old values and new amorality.

The pairing of bumbling naïf with would-be sharpie recurs as a motif in several of these movies. In Zhang Ming's ***Rainclouds over Wushan/In Expectation*** (1996; screens February 16 at 9 p.m.), a quiet river signal man gets led astray by a ne'er-do-well friend who seems intent on getting him laid, ultimately involving him in a sexual-assault charge and true love. Told, Kieslowski-style, in elliptical, overlapping episodes (note the linking symbol of the two carps in a bucket, and the pending flooding of the valley for a dam project), it is both alluring and unsatisfying. I mean, did he rape her or didn't he?

More straightforward is Shi Runjiu's ***A Beautiful New World*** (1999; screens February 27 at 8 p.m.), the only comedy in the bunch and a genuine charmer. Narrated partly by saucy traditional musicians performing before a teahouse audience (similar to the device used recently in the Korean film *Chuhnyang*), this tells the story of a genial galoot from the sticks who travels to Shanghai to collect his lottery prize, a luxury apartment. The trouble is the building won't be constructed for two years, and in the meantime he must room with his "auntie," a distantly related, haughty young woman whose efforts to make money through get-rich-quick schemes and lucrative marriages inevitably backfire. Nuanced and bawdy, it's a delightful romantic comedy that proves that hard work beats bad investments.

The specter of illicit sex toyed with in *World* gets the John Cassavetes treatment in Lu Yue's debut feature, ***Mr. Zhao*** (1998; screens February 24 at 9:30 p.m.). The first 20 minutes or so involve the unfortunate title character, a teacher and practitioner of traditional medicine, undergoing the third degree from his wife, who has caught him *in flagrante delicto* with a former student. The latter woman is no prize, either, as she drives our hero from their love nest by informing him she's pregnant and demanding commitment. An almost excruciatingly convincing portrayal of romantic discontent, the film finds a way out of its dilemma with a Hitchcockian variation on *Ethan Frome*.

The theme of individual desire versus social responsibility gets an equally grim treatment in another film named after the protagonist, Jia Zhangke's ***Xiao Wu*** (1997; screens February 17 at 7 p.m.). Like Mr. Zhao, he's a man pursuing a dying trade, in this case picking pockets. His fellow thieves have graduated to more modern and lucrative operations like black-market cigarettes and prostitution, legitimized by the local authorities. But as he tells a call girl he falls for, he prefers to earn his living with his hands. Reminiscent of Robert Bresson's *Pickpocket* not only for its subject but also for its ritualistic rhythms and meticulous detail (a cigarette lighter that plays "Für Elise" is a beautiful touch), this is a moving portrait of doomed romanticism.

Ning Ying's ***On the Beat*** (1995; screens February 23 at 9 p.m., with the filmmaker present) offers the other side of the crime-and-punishment dichotomy, and like *Xiao Wu* it employs a cast of nonprofessional actors. A kind of *BPD Blues*, it follows the daily activities of a Beijing police precinct from the point of view of one beleaguered veteran. Ning ironically juxtaposes the pompous official pronouncements of the department with the unglamorous realities — such as an army of police chasing a stray dog with clubs in a slapstick scene worthy of the Keystone Kops. Exterminating dogs looms as an insidious metaphor for well-intended authority that overreaches its bounds and becomes a self-destroying tyranny. It's funny and poignant — the squad room enviously watching an American cop TV show is ruefully hilarious, but the comic interrogation of a suspect who calls an officer a "dirty dog" turns ugly fast.

Public service takes an even more sinister turn in He Jianjun's ***Postman*** (1995; screens February 16 at 7 p.m.), which seems a more convoluted version of Kieslowski's *A Short Film About Love*. A Norman Bates–like young man takes a job in the local post office delivering mail and fills the void of his social life by reading the letters of strangers. This voyeurism draws him into dangerous contact with taboo behavior — adultery, prostitution, homosexuality, drug addiction, possibly incest — perversely encouraging the same in his own life, but ensuring steady work habits that earn the praise of his unwitting but equally corrupted superiors. A creepy, subtle film delicately interweaving telling details and ineffable atmosphere, it deserves repeated viewings.

So does Ah Nian's ***Call Me*** (2000; screens February 23 at 7 p.m., with the filmmaker present), an ambitious if overstuffed film that combines many of the major themes in this series. Once again, two country bumpkins, strangers to each other, try to survive in the city, one by delivering flowers, the other by selling blood on the black market. The former can't get a woman to sign for a bouquet from an unwanted suitor and must pursue her; the latter discovers he has contracted AIDS and must track down all those who have received his blood and may also have been infected. These two and other lost and deluded souls fumble for human contact through such modern means of non-communication as a telephone message service, a public bulletin board, and the Internet.

Movies, though, are more successful. As this film and the others in this series demonstrate, cinema remains a universal language, illuminating common dreams — and common nightmares. ■

"THE URBAN GENERATION: CHINESE CINEMA AND SOCIETY IN TRANSFORMATION."
At the Harvard Film Archive February 16 to 27.

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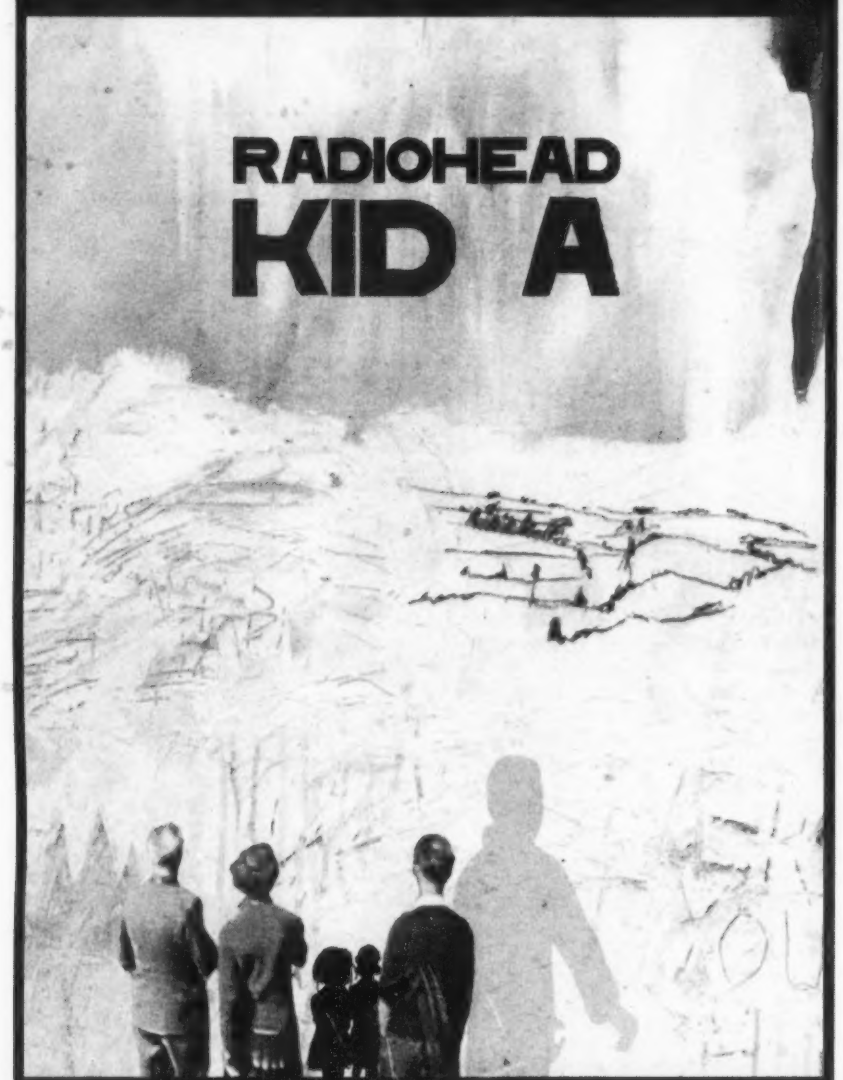

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film

Beyond Sundance

Rotterdam and the Boston Underground Festivals

Minutes off a plane from Holland, where I attended the 30th Rotterdam Film Festival, I'm hit at an airport newsstand with a blast of Sundance public relations: a fawning, celeb-obsessed fest diary by Bruce Wagner in the February 4 Sunday *New York Times*. Welcome home! Our media persuade us that the Sundance Festival is the center of the world's filmic activity. In the days after, lots of US critics, on annual pilgrimages to Sundance, chimed in with their 2001 reports: this year was better than most, less hype, fewer bidding wars, more worthwhile movies. American cinema reigns, alive and thrashing in Park City.

film culture by Gerald Peary

Well, maybe so. I wasn't there. But I've returned from 10 days of steady film-watching at Rotterdam (a fabulous global festival) with a completely opposite message: it's Asia that's kicking rump in the new millennium. For every decent American independent feature there are 20 or 30 at this moment springing out in Asia from so many young, enterprising directors that it's impossible to keep up. Thrilling films from Hong Kong and China, Taiwan, and, recently, Thailand; and there's a veritable Korean Renaissance. Japan is back after a sleepy time, filmmaker after youthful filmmaker.

Perhaps that's why *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, the biggest foreign-language hit ever in the West, is (according to *Variety*) performing so disappointingly in the East, including Hong Kong, Korea, and mainland China. What seems so exotic and enchanting here (I'm a fan myself) is regarded there as just another martial-arts movie, and in no way as adventurous as other current Asian pictures.

For example: Kinji Fukasaku's mind-bending *Battle Royale*. This sensationally energetic comic book of a movie was the resounding success of the Rotterdam Fest, embraced by both a college-age crowd (I saw it with a cheering audience of 800) and esoteric-minded film critics. A favorite back home in Japan, though politicians tried to censor it, *Battle Royale* has set box-office records recently in Hong Kong, where, says *Variety*, *Crouching Tiger* is dismissed as "cleverly packaged chop suey."

What's the concept? *Survivor* meets *Rock 'n' Roll High School*, and if I were a sly American distributor with deep pockets I'd buy *Battle Royale* immediately. The plot? Somewhere in the near future, Japan is in chaos, with adolescents out of control. The frightened government hits back. A high-school class is randomly kidnapped and the kids tossed on an island. For three days, boys and girls must kill each other, until there's only one.

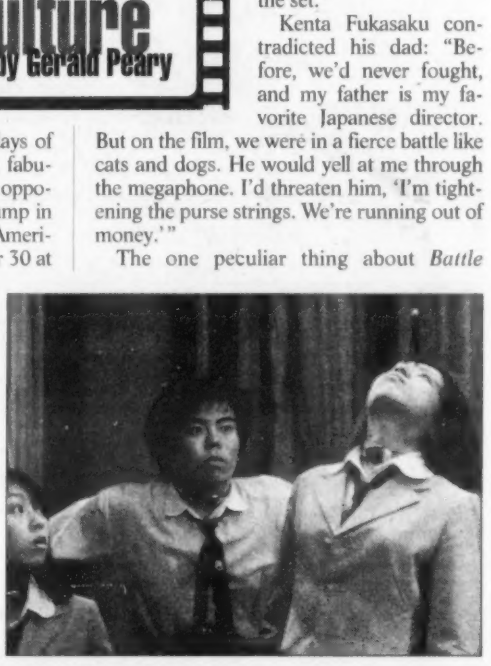
That's the heart of the movie: this idyllic island and filmmaker Fukasaku cutting from student to student as they shoot, stab, and hack each other into premature graves, betraying their best friends, carrying out vendettas from school days. What can I say? I found the varieties of bloodletting highly imaginative and strangely exhilarating, even liberating. I had an *Indiana Jones* kind of great time.

"The real crisis is the loss of energy in Japan," explained the filmmaker, coming out to speak. "This film is an attempt to jumpstart the Japanese energy."

Everyone marveled, for Kinji Fukasaku is a white-haired 70-year-old who has made movies since 1963. "I hardly dared to anticipate the success we've had among young people," he said. "Before shooting, I was quite anxious about the age difference between me and the stars. So my son, Kenta, served as producer and screenwriter. He's 28 and he created a bridge and a wonderful atmosphere on the set."

Kenta Fukasaku contradicted his dad: "Before, we'd never fought, and my father is my favorite Japanese director. But on the film, we were in a fierce battle like cats and dogs. He would yell at me through the megaphone. I'd threaten him, 'I'm tightening the purse strings. We're running out of money.'"

The one peculiar thing about *Battle Royale* is its total chastity.



BATTLE ROYALE: *this sensationally energetic comic book of a movie was the resounding success of the Rotterdam Fest, embraced by both a college-age crowd and esoteric-minded film critics.*

"Why no sex and nudity?" I queried the filmmaker.

"I am myself quite fond of sex and nudity," he said with a smile, "but I like violence even more!"

THOSE WAITING for General Cinema to make a bold move at the Fenway Theatre will be pleased to know that the chain has agreed to sponsor, and host 35-millimeter screenings for, the third Boston Underground Film Festival, February 20 through 27. This is exciting news. But why couldn't the palatial Fenway venue be used to support an alternative location for the woeful Boston Film Festival, which has been wedged into the minihouses at Copley Place?

One can dream. Meanwhile, curator David Kleiler has put together a most enticing lineup, a leap forward from earlier years. I can immediately recommend Guy Maddin's five-minute masterpiece *Heart of the World*, the best film on the globe in the year 2000; Jem Cohen's *Benjamin Smoke*, an eerie documentary about the Atlanta drag and drug queen whose music has influenced Patti Smith and R.E.M.; and Gaspar Noé's *I Stand Alone*, a riveting, Fassbinder-like French feature about a crazed butcher. There's a sneak preview of *Mutant Aliens*, the new animated feature from Bill Plympton, and the first peek at scenes from Brad Anderson's forthcoming horrorfest, *Session Nine*. Awesome! Be there! A schedule can be found at www.bostonundergroundfilmfestival.com. ■

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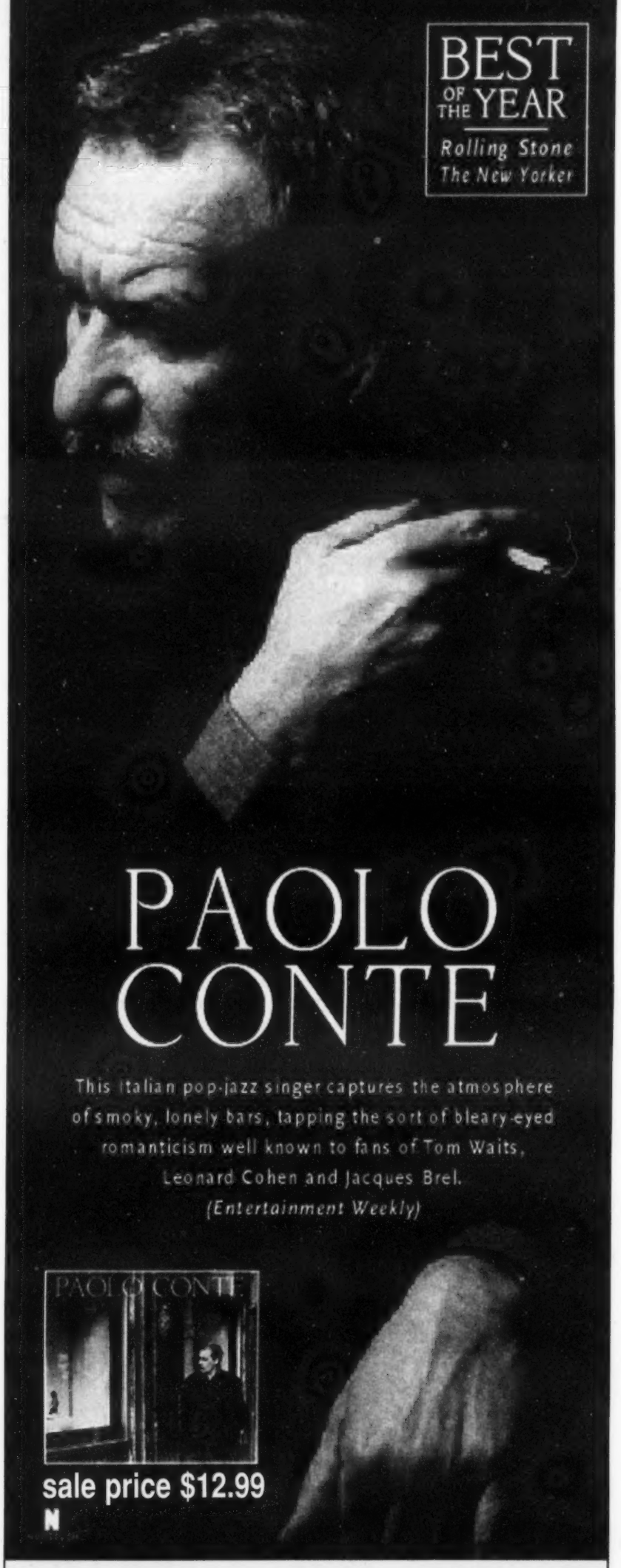

PAOLO CONTE

This Italian pop-jazz singer captures the atmosphere of smoky, lonely bars, tapping the sort of bleary-eyed romanticism well known to fans of Tom Waits, Leonard Cohen and Jacques Brel.
(Entertainment Weekly)

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trailers

BLITHE SPIRITS: *Charlize and Keanu are meant for each other!*

SWEET NOVEMBER

So Richard Gere plays this uptight workaholic asshole who learns to live after falling in love with blithe spirit Winona Ryder. No, wait a minute, that was last year's *Autumn in New York*. This is this year's *Sweet November*, itself a remake of the 1968 film that was a kind of horrible precursor to *Love Story* in 1970. Okay, so Keanu Reeves plays this uptight workaholic asshole, let's call him Nelson, who learns to live after falling in love with a blithe spirit, let's call her Sarah, played by Charlize Theron. How does this happen? Well, Nelson's the kind of advertising guy with a cell phone attached to his ear who forgets that his girlfriend's parents are coming to town and designs ad campaigns making hot dogs look like diabolical phallic symbols. You know the type I'm talking about. Anyway, he has to renew his driver's license. (Symbol? I don't think so.) When Sarah comes in, he notices her when she drops a salami. (Symbol? Yes! It's *vegan* salami.) He asks her to cheat for him on the test and she gets tossed out. In revenge, perhaps, she stalks him, gets him to abet her in a crime (she rescues cute puppies from a medical-experimentation lab!), and when he loses his job and girlfriend she gets him to move in with her for a month to be her Mr. November so she can transform him into a nice guy (it's a thing she does).

So before he knows it, Nelson is walking five white poodles simultaneously! He's playing blindman's buff in the bedroom! He's having dinner with the downstairs neighbors and they're transvestites! (Okay, this is San Francisco.) How can he resist? I admit; I couldn't either. No, it wasn't director Pat O'Connor's potentially record-setting (look this up) six bliss montages backed, let's be fair, with quality music. Nor was it Keanu Reeves, who's basically a lug nut who has to pretend he's not interested in a beautiful hippie throwback to the Love Generation offering herself up, no strings attached. Maybe it's Theron, with her moony face and earnest smile, her big shoes and kicky clothes and relentless serotonin level that makes you want to end every sentence with an exclamation point! Or maybe it's the whole theme of love's exultation and transience, which has been making suckers of audiences since Romeo and Juliet and Orpheus and beyond. I think, though, it's just the dreary month of February, whose traditionally sour studio fare makes a manipulative confection like *Sweet November* seem ruefully sweet indeed. *At the Copley Place, the Fenway, Fresh Pond, and Chestnut Hill , and in the suburbs.*

— Peter Keough

RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT

Forget Bush's fantastical plan to raise scholastic scores, or even our own MCAS fracas. This screen version of the animated Disney TV series takes the concept of "better education" to its totalitarian extreme. Fired secretary of education Phillam Benedict (James Woods in a role that obviously spoofs former education czar William Bennett) concocts a scheme worthy of a Bond villain to cast the globe into eternal winter. Why? To end summer (and summer break) so kids will stay inside and study harder. What's even more illicit is that Benedict somehow ascended to the post of secretary after being removed as a school principal for abolishing recess. But this is a film for and about kids. No one believes fourth-grade jokester T.J. (Andy Lawrence) when he stumbles upon Benedict's giant ray gun and army of ninjas — the police laugh at him and his parents think he's bumped his head again. So it's up to T.J. and his crew of misfits to thwart Benedict and rescue the school's missing principal (Dabney Coleman). As ridiculous as *Recess* sounds, director Chuck Sheetz spins it into an enjoyable breeze. The humor regularly hits the mark, and the kid lessons are well baked. Essentially, it's *The Simpsons* for 10-year-olds. *At the Copley Place, the Fenway, the Fresh Pond, and Chestnut Hill, and in the suburbs.*

BREAK: School's Out *is* The Simpsons *for 10-year-olds.*

— Tom Meek

theater

Old haunts

Trinity masters *The Piano Lesson*

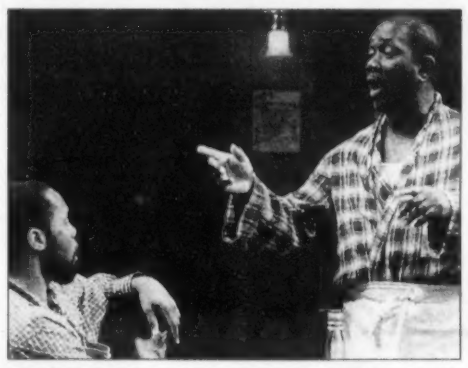
BY CAROLYN CLAY Ghosts both literal and figurative hover over August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson*. Downstairs in a house in Pittsburgh in 1936, grown siblings war over the fate of an heirloom piano into which their slave-family history is carved. Upstairs lurks the demon-shade of a recently departed cracker whose family once sold a couple of human beings for the instrument. And at Trinity Repertory Company, where the 1990 Pulitzer Prize winner is getting a spirited production in more ways than one, director Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe offers a specter Wilson didn't think of. The play opens, in near darkness, with an appearance by the Piano Spirit, a mournful-looking figure in turned-up collar and pulled-down hat, who gives the keyboard a rousing workout as an ominous bass rumble suggests we may soon be needing an exorcist big-time.

THE PIANO LESSON

By August Wilson. Directed by Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe. Set design by Michael McGarty. Costumes by Andre Harrington. Lighting by Yael Lubetzky. Music by Mitch Greenhill. With Ricardo Pitts-Wiley, Keskhemnu, Kevin Maurice Jackson, Rose Weaver, Brianna McBride, Robert Jason Jackson, Abdul Salaam El Razzac, and Pamela Lambert. At Trinity Repertory Company, Providence, through March 11.

Indeed, *The Piano Lesson* is an exorcism cloaked in a slice-of-1930s-black-life drama. There is talk in the play of a railway crossroads where men talk to ghosts. And the work itself sits at the intersection of realism and metaphor — which can be a jarring place unless you accept that Wilson, arguably the pre-eminent American playwright of his generation, believes in ghosts and has not just stirred supernatural mumbo-jumbo into the kitchen sink. *The Piano Lesson* is the fourth in Wilson's decade-by-decade chronicle of the African-American experience in the 20th century (there are eight plays so far), and as with its immediate predecessor, the 1911-set *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, its spiritual element is as palpable as corn bread. *The Piano Lesson* is not the masterpiece *Joe Turner* is; it's repetitious, imperfectly resolved, and sometimes richer in the margins than in the middle. But Wilson, as always, spins gold from the rhythms of black speech, while capturing the transience of a culture uprooted. And the play's central question, about what to do with the legacy of slavery, knows no bottom.

The Piano Lesson begins at five o'clock in the morning, when Boy Willie Charles, up from Mississippi, clamorously descends on the Pittsburgh house where his widowed sister, Berniece, lives with their uncle Doaker and Berniece's 11-year-old daughter, Maretha. He and friend Lymon have driven a moribund truck north with a load of watermelons to sell. But, really, Boy Willie has come for the piano. So, apparently, has Sutter, the newly deceased representative of the white family on whose land the Charles's antecedents were slaves and then sharecroppers. As is explained by Doaker, the piano's past is bittersweet. Berniece and Boy Willie's grandfather and great-grandmother were bartered for the instrument; grieving, their great-grandfather carved his lost relatives' faces, along with other portraits and scenes, into its wood. Years later, Berniece and Boy Willie's father stole this totem of family history from the Sutters and lost his life in the process, setting off a cycle of ghostly vengeance. Boy Willie is determined to sell the piano to buy the last of the Sutter land. But for Berniece, "money can't buy what that piano cost."



EXORCISM: *but it's cloaked in slice-of-life 1930s black drama.*

In the end, the sibling conflict and the metaphor culminate in a quite literal dust-up, out of which comes healing. But at Trinity, Wilson's treasures — linguistic, humorous, and tender — are mined along the way by a splendid cast that commits to the work with guts and heart. And Cooper-Anifowoshe, taking her cue from Wilson, fills the piece with period detail, from a metal bathtub hauled into the middle of the kitchen and filled with saucepans of hot water to a painful session with hair grease and a hot comb. It's hard to resist Boy Willie striding about the kitchen eating greens out of the pot or a stamp-and-clap rendition of a prison-farm ditty undertaken by Boy Willie, Lymon, Doaker, and another uncle, Wining Boy. I don't know where costume designer Andre Harrington came up with the wardrobe for once-dapper Wining Boy, who long ago traded a musician's career for the whiskey bottle. But the screaming vintage suits, including a yellow silk number that transforms Lymon from bumpkin to Big Bird, are a sight to behold.

As Boy Willie, Keskhemnu gives a performance that is expansive, single-minded, and bursting with bulldozing life. Rose Weaver's Berniece, by contrast, is all suspicious containment, so that when fury or sweetness bursts out, the effect is poignant. Ricardo Pitts-Wiley is folksy yet authoritative as the wise, practical Doaker. Kevin Maurice Jackson is a simple, open Lymon, hilarious in his attempt to cut a cool figure in tight shoes, touching in his late-night reaching out to Berniece. And Robert Jason Jackson captures both the essential goodness and the ineffectualness of elevator-operator-turned-preacher Avery. Best of all, perhaps, is Abdul Salaam El Razzac's weathered and aristocratic Wining Boy, at his lanky, dandified ease whether reeling drunk, hustling a few bucks, or offering up blunt wisdom about "the difference between the colored man and the white man." In these capable hands, we get a *Piano Lesson* taught by maestros. ■

Royalty

Dame Edna's many lives

BY NICK A. ZAINO III Dame Edna, Australian housewife, megastar, talk-show host, photojournalist, and icon, does more in one day than most of us will do in our lifetimes. While touring with her Tony Award–winning one-woman show, *The Royal Tour*, she has been working on several other projects, all while taking time to be with her family.

"This isn't the only thing I do," she says, speaking on the phone from a hotel room in Florida, the tour's latest stop. "I write books, I visit hospitals, I photograph war orphans. I'm bringing out a lovely book. A coffee-table book of war orphans."

She also works tirelessly for the charity she founded, Friends of the Prostate, in honor of her late husband. Edna gets philosophical when asked how she fits all this into her busy schedule. "When people say, 'Edna, how do you find the time?' I say to them, 'How *don't* you find the time?' I make time, because life is a gift, and it doesn't last forever."

Dame Edna has been a star since she won Australia's "Lovely Mother" award in 1956, when her partner in crime, Barry Humphries, discovered her and asked her to be part of a comedy revue he was working on. That was the start of a long, acrimonious relationship, as Dame Edna tells it. "In 1955 or 1956, I appeared on the stage in Melbourne on the campus of the university, a shy, darling little young mother. Humphries saw me, invited me as a consultant. The producers wanted me to do it instead of him, and the rest is history. I did a stint on-stage, the audience loved me, and I went off and did my own shows. But of course, he tied me up in a contract he and I have been disputing together since. Dreadful."

The tacit conceit of this story is that Dame Edna *is* Barry Humphries, an Australian character actor. And though Humphries will never have the name recognition he has earned as Dame Edna, his credits are just as impressive. In the late '50s, he played Estragon in *Waiting for Godot*, the first Australian production of a Beckett play. He was a fixture in the '60s in London's West End, where he appeared in productions of *Oliver!* and *Maggie May* and worked with eccentric comedian Spike Milligan on several stage and radio productions. And, of course, he has been playing Dame Edna consistently since the '70s, when she became the focus of his stage shows.

But when you're interviewing Dame Edna, you won't hear too much about Humphries. (She can't say much anyway right now, since the dispute is still active in the courts, she says.) She'd rather talk about her previous lives, when she was Eleanor Roosevelt, a friend of Henry James, and even Shakespeare's wife, Anne Hathaway. To make matters more confusing, she credits Hathaway/Edna with some of the Bard's best work.

"I can remember sitting at the table with Shakespeare, at the kitchen table, at breakfast time, and he was trying to think up one of his shows," she says. "I said, 'What would you like, the scrambled eggs, or would you like the eggs easy over?' And he was not even listening to me, so I said impatiently, 'Well, if you want breakfast, tell me now. To be or not to be, breakfast,' I said to him. It's funny, I think probably I wrote all the best bits of his shows."

She's not entirely certain, but Dame Edna thinks she may also have been Christopher Columbus. But she much prefers her current incarnation. "I can just remember, you know, the food was horrible," she says, in a flashback. "And arriving . . . frankly, I don't think I discovered very much of interest at all. But it's a lovely life that I enjoy. The travel, the new impressions, talking to young, impressionable journalists like you. And above all, sharing my experience, my hope, and my strength with my Bostonian possums."

PHILANTHROPIST: *"When people say, 'Edna, how do you find the time?' I say to them, 'How* don't *you find the time?'"*

And Edna has never been to Boston in her current lifetime, so the prospect excites her. "I'm discovering America again as myself. I'm discovering Boston, certainly, in a week's time, and I've got a spooky feeling I'm going to like what I find."

It's all part of Dame Edna's continuing personal history, which she hopes will "enrich the lives of the sad, boring, and disadvantaged," as she says on her Web site. That's the best part of her one-woman shows, and of the character itself. Dame Edna makes it up as she goes along. "I would not insult an audience with a rehearsed show. It's like a beautiful improvisation. I'm the soloist and the audience is the sort of orchestra. It's a concerto of audience and megastar."

That must be hard to coordinate.

"Well, I'm good at it." ■

Dame Edna: The Royal Tour *plays at the Wilbur Theatre February 20 through March 11. Tickets are $25 to $65, available at the Wilbur box office or through Ticketmaster at 931-2787*

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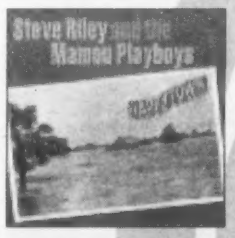

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theater

Singing detective

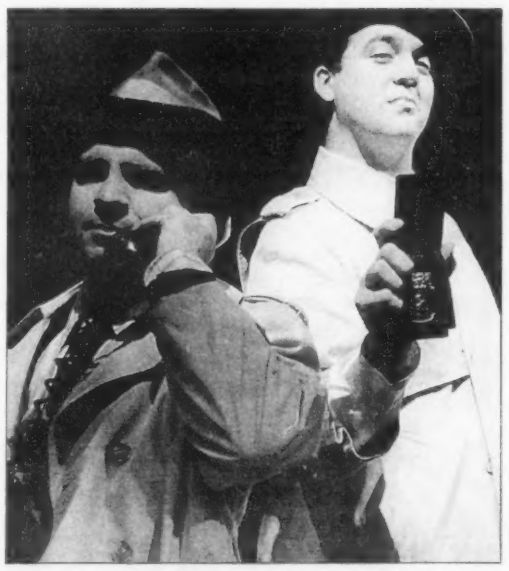
Lyric sets murder to music again

BY CAROLYN CLAY "Boy meets girl, boy meets killer, boy abandons mother" is how Jewish mom Flora Brummel sums up the plot of *No Way To Treat a Lady*, and she's not far off. Douglas J. Cohen's musical, a winner of the Richard Rodgers Award, is about a Jewish detective who's investigating a serial strangler. In the course of said duty, he meets his dream girl, a rich, arty shiksa who lives in the same Manhattan apartment building as the first victim and is sick of her empty, upscale life. And, oh yes, the middle-aged dick finally summons the courage to stand up to his controlling mother, Flora (who rat-a-tats his name, Morris, into just about every lyric). The show is eerily reminiscent of Stephen Sondheim, not just in its anxious score and *Company*-like 1970 Manhattan setting but in its focus, à la *Sweeney Todd*, on a mass murderer. Of course, the Lyric Stage Company of Boston likes that stuff, having previously produced Sondheim's *Assassins*, a little warble-a-thon that brings together folks who have taken a shot at the president.

NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY

Book, music, and lyrics by Douglas J. Cohen. Based on the novel by William Goldman. Directed by Spiro Veloudos. Musical direction by Jonathan Goldberg. Choreographed by Mary Mazzulli. Set design by Janie E. Howland. Costumes by Gail Astrid Buckley. Lighting by Russell Swift. Sound by Marc Plevinsky. With Robin V. Allison, Derek Stearns, J.H. Williston, and Maryann Zschau. At the Lyric Stage Company of Boston, Wednesday through Sunday, through March 10.

No Way To Treat a Lady began life as a novel by William Goldman and went on to become a 1968 film that starred George Segal as detective Morris Brummel, Lee Remick as his budding girlfriend, and Rod Steiger as the killer who won't quit until he gets front-page coverage in the *New York Times*. Cohen's rather accomplished musical, more ironic than chilling, is a minimalist affair featuring a quartet of four actors. Detective, girlfriend, and killer form a sort of love triangle, and the fourth member of the cast plays a number of roles: Morris's mother; the murderer's abandoning mom, a famous actress; and the victims — all older ladies. You see, what detective and killer have in common, apart from a yen to see their names in the *Times*, are mothers they'd like to strangle. Unfortunately, failed actor "Kit" Gill has died before getting a chance (to great folderol in the paper of record), and Flora, well, she means well.



MOTHER LOVERS: *Derek Stearns is the singing Columbo and J.H. Williston the hammy villain.*

At the Lyric Stage, in Spiro Veloudos's broad-brush production, what impresses are the sophisticated, if big-numberless, score and the quality of the singing. All four performers have lush voices, and musical director Jonathan Goldberg leads with a finessing invisible band. But this likable show is far from subtle: it's rife with winking lyrics like "My life is in your hands" and "Something to get the blood flowing." And in the hands of Veloudos and actor J.H. Williston, murderer and needy bad boy Kit is a failed actor in more ways than the script calls for — a snitting, seething ham bone brandishing a variety of accents and disguises, but not a variety of moods.

Admittedly, the character, at least as sketched in the musical, is your standard hurt-child-grown-up-to-be-attention-seeking-psycho. The actress mother not only ignored him but also demeaned his thespian aspirations. Now he's taken up murder as an art, views every killing as a performance, and regards his ink on the crime pages as reviews. "We're a hit!" he crows to the detective when an interview with Morris, about the strangler's rampage, finally gets a banner headline in the *Times*. But at the Lyric, Kit is a one-loud-note maniac without a soupçon of slyness. He's more annoying than frightening — though impressively, grotesquely committed on "Once More from the Top," in which he dementedly frames his exploits as a vaudeville number complete with lunging dance moves and a heel-click.

By contrast, Derek Stearns is both self-effacing and increasingly a mensch as the singing Columbo. Rolling out of bed to face another day of wrinkled-trenchcoating, he croons that he needs "a shave, a shrink, a life," and actually seems to be a character rather than a cartoon. Similarly, Robin V. Allison, in addition to dispatching some lovely high notes, is ingenuous yet smart as the been-around-the-Upper-East-Side-block Sarah, who finds herself disarmed by a disheveled cop seeking information and Bosco. And Maryann Zschau hits the cliché on the head, without being too overbearing, as the nagging Flora. She also gets to inhabit a ghostly portrait as Kit's wicked-diva mom and to expire in several amusing ditties. These include a silky number (Williston's subtlest) in which the killer, disguised as a priest, comfortingly assures an Irish widow that "beyond heaven's door/There is room for one more" and another in which Kit, done up as a Spanish-accented dance instructor, cha-chas an over-the-hill vamp through the pearly gates.

At the Lyric, the musical is performed before Janie E. Howland's collage of floating, mostly bolted doors that suggest you shouldn't open yours; no telling who might be knocking. And Cohen's score supplies, along with a jaded sweetness and some vicious irony, a jumpy Hitchcockian underlayer. Stearns and Allison home in on the cautious romance. And a musical about a murderer has to have a certain wryness. But at the Lyric, *No Way To Treat a Lady* just isn't scary for a minute. ■

theater

Bard bending

Goodnight Desdemona; an all-girl *Shrew*

Double-drag? Counter-cross-dressing? Whatever you call men pretending to be women pretending to be men, Shakespeare was into it. Viola, Rosalind, and Portia are only the most illustrious of his cross-dressing babes, who — like all his characters — in his day were played by guys.

aisle hopping
BY ANNE MARIE DONAHUE

Shakespeare's work has been subjected to all kinds of gender-bending twists in recent decades. In Boston Theatre Works's staging of ***The Taming of the Shrew*** (at the Tremont Theatre through February 25), an all-woman cast takes a shot at arguably the most sexist play in his oeuvre. In Ann-Marie MacDonald's ***Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*** (at Threshold Theatre through March 3), a nerdy academic is magically transported into two of Shakespeare's tragedies and saves the heroines from doom. Although the all-woman *Shrew* sounds like fun, it turns out to be a drag. But Threshold's production of *Goodnight Desdemona* is good for laughs and more.

An unusual mix of literary high jinks and lowbrow lunacy, *Goodnight Desdemona* won an array of awards following its 1988 premiere in Canada. MacDonald's first, the play is smart but relentlessly silly. MacDonald lifts lines straight from Shakespeare and splices them together with her own blank verse. The play's scholarly heroine, Constance Ledbelly, can manage iambic pentameter in a pinch, but her native tongue is the North American vernacular.

In the minds of her colleagues at Queen's College, where she toils as an assistant professor, Constance is ordinariness incarnate. But despite her rock-bottom self-esteem, Constance knows she's not the mouse she's made out to be. "No, I'm not special," she tells the smarmy professor she secretly loves. "Unique, maybe, in the sense that a snowflake is unique, but no more valuable than any other flake." Constance flakes out big-time when the professor tells her he's getting married and moving to Oxford, nabbing a post she thought would be hers. Nibbling Velveeta and slugging a Coors Light, she works out an elaborate suicide plan as she cleans out her desk, even trashing the research supporting her cherished theory that both *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet* were originally written by an unknown scribe as comedies, which the Bard recast as tragedies. Suddenly, she's sucked into the garbage can and spit out into the handkerchief scene in *Othello*. Before leaving her adventure in Bardland, Constance wins the respect of Desdemona and Juliet and comes to respect herself. Ridiculous but courageous in her way, she is unforgettable.

Like Constance, the Threshold production is shabby on the surface but solid at the core. The costumes are ragtag, and the sets, lighting, and sound are low-budget. But the acting is good across the board. Brigid O'Connor is suitably goofy in the role of Constance. Cara Consilvio, Robert Fuller, and Valerie Madden have the range and energy their multiple roles require. None, however, matches the poise and panache of Michael Keamy. It's a credit to director Kate Caffrey that the tone and timing are right on.

ANYTHING GOES: *the all-woman* Shrew *sounds like fun, but it turns out to be a drag.*

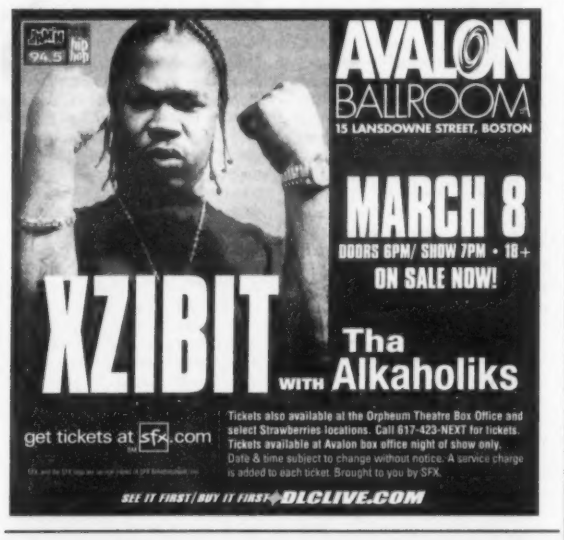
Lax direction may account for the sloppiness of Boston Theatre Works's staging of *The Taming of the Shrew*. Helmed by Lisa Wolpe, founder and artistic director of the Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company, this all-female production lacks either a clear concept (beyond the girls-will-be-boys thing) or consistency.

Shakespeare's script allows for sweeping artistic license. Introduced in the opening scene as the dream of a drunken tinker, the story of Petruchio's subjugation of Kate need not be realistic. And the parallel plot involving contenders for the hand of Kate's comely sister is equally open to fanciful treatment.

Whatever the take, contemporary productions of *Shrew* usually make some attempt to soften the sexism. In Wolpe's staging, the tamed Kate is abject, and her subjugation is played out without winks or nods. The tone and trappings are vaudevillian, the characters are cartoons, and the shtick suggests the Three Stooges.

Apart from the clownishness, however, the production doesn't seem to have a point. Wolpe might have made all the male characters lesbians or drag kings, male parodies or straight-ahead straight men. Across-the-board androgyny might have worked. But the director's anything-goes approach to the male characters' masculinity is the show's undoing. The guys run the gamut from girly to burly, and the man-factor shifts even within individual characters.

The setting is similarly amorphous. In a program note, Wolpe says her production begins in 1940s Italy. But the introduction substituted for the usual shenanigans with Christopher Sly is a scene of rape and murder committed in the course of what appears to be an art heist. Thereafter, this *Shrew* eschews time and place for what Wolpe calls "a Lewis Carroll dreamscape" that has the irksome incoherence of a nightmare. ■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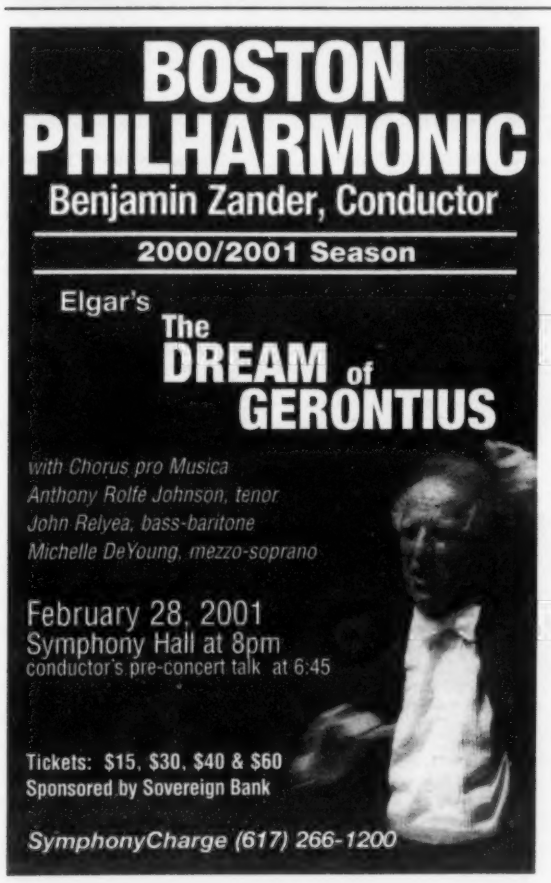

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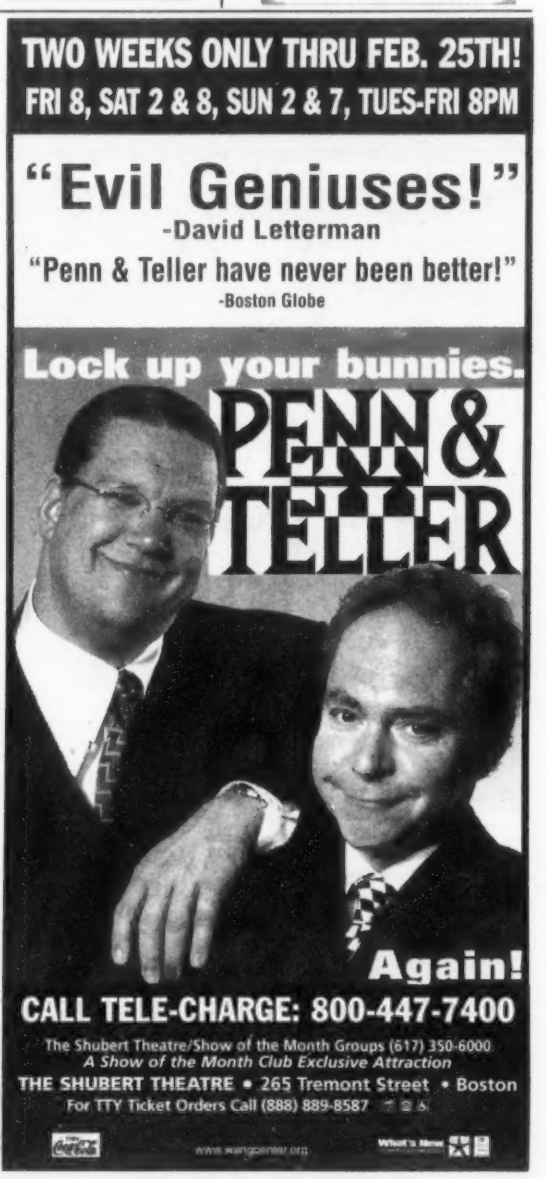
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play by play

COMPILED BY CAROLYN CLAY

■ **THE ADDING MACHINE.** Kathy Maloney directs Elmer Rice's forward-looking 1923 play about the dehumanizing effects of technology; it features a white-collar antihero named Zero and his "fierce, wacky, sad, and sometimes brilliant rage against the machine." At the Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300 extension 1), through February 24. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Tix $15; $10 for seniors and students on Thursday.

■ **THE BECKETT PROJECT.** Industrial Theatre presents an "ensemble-developed piece inspired by the life and work of the late Samuel Beckett" that "weaves together language from Beckett's works and images from his life with the imaginative interpretations" of the ensemble. Resident playwright William Donnelly and artistic director Christopher Scully "serve as co-facilitators of this unconventional creation" (which would doubtless have the famously particular Beckett calling his lawyers). At the Leverett Old Library Theatre, Mill Street, Cambridge (496-2222), through February 24. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $12; $9 for seniors and students.

■ **BIG, THE MUSICAL.** That venerable community theater, the Footlight Club, presents the Boston premiere of the 1996 musical with book by John Weidman, music by David Shire, and lyrics by Richard Maltby Jr.; it's based on the popular Tom Hanks film about an adolescent trapped in a grown-up's body. At Eliot Hall, 7A Eliot Street, Jamaica Plain (524-3200), through February 17. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Tix $15.

■ **BLUE MAN GROUP.** It would be difficult and unfair to try to catalogue all the antics of the Drama Desk Award–winning trio of cobalt-painted bald pates who have settled into long runs Off Broadway and at the Charles Playhouse. They begin their delightful and deafening evening of anti–performance art beating drums that are also deep buckets of paint, so that sprays of color jump from the instruments like breaking surf, and end by engulfing the spectators in tangles of toilet paper. Go experience it. At the Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton Street, Boston (426-6912), indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; at 7 and 10 p.m. on Friday; at 4, 7, and 10 p.m. on Saturday; and at 3 and 6 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $39 to $49; $19.75 obstructed-view seating; available at the box office and Bostix day of performance.

■ **BOSTON WOMEN ON TOP FESTIVAL.** For the fifth year, Centastage Performance Group and Underground Railway Theater team up (this year in cooperation with Boston Playwrights' Theatre) to present "a rich celebration of our local female playwrights and performers." The festival includes five mainstage events, a late-night comedy show, and three staged readings, as well as forums and workshops. Here's the line-up. Feature 1: *Naming the Days*, by Deborah Lubar, directed by Marianne Lust, grows out of Lubar's recent trips to Bosnia. "Master storyteller and critically acclaimed solo performer, Lubar plays three wildly different women thrown into close quarters by the war." Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on February 22 and March 15, 16, and 17 and at 2 p.m. on March 18. Feature 2: *Mexico City* and *Sailing Down the Amazon*, by Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro, directed by Daniel Gidron. This double bill is about "travelers, uneasy on foreign soil, who make important discoveries about themselves." Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on February 23 and March 5, 8, 9, and 10; at 2 p.m. on February 25 and March 11; and at 7 p.m. on March 4 and 11. Feature 3: *Chopping*, by Magdalena Gomez, and *Traveling Naked*, by Deborah Lake Fortson, both directed by Dyana Kimball. In *Chopping*, a second-generation Latina-American uses wildly eccentric clothing to celebrate erotica, rebel against her mother's restrictive morality, and lovingly conjure the memory of her shunned lesbian aunt. In *Traveling Naked*, "bathtub-bound Ava trades wits and fantasies with her new husband." Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on February 22 and 26 and March 1, 2, and 3; at 7 p.m. on February 25 and March 4; and at 2 p.m. on March 4. Feature 4: *The Arkansas Tornado*, by Kathleen Rogers, directed by Joe Antoun. In a show that incorporates "love, death, and barbecue sauce," "Carmen, at the mid-point, and her granddaughter Howdy, 17" try to reinvent themselves. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on February 23 and 24 and March 8, 9, 10, and 12; at 2 p.m. on February 25 and March 11; and at 7 p.m. on March 11. Feature 5: *A Night of Quickies*, an evening of short plays directed by Sheila Stasack. On the bill are *Labor Day*, a comic tour de force having to do with the meaning of fall, and *Relative Strangers*, in which a young airline passenger decides the woman seated next to her might be her mother, both by Sheri Wilner; *Critique*, by Susanna Ralli, about a man and woman grieving; *ExtraOrdinaire*, by Janet Kenney, which presents a choice between "middle age" and "center ring"; and *The Emancipation of Mandy and Miz Ellie*, by Lois Roach, about the change wrought in the relationship of a former slave and mistress by the end of the Civil War. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on February 24 and March 1, 2, 3, 15, 16, and 17; at 7 p.m. on February 25; and at 2 p.m. on March 4 and 18. In addition, Margaret Ann Brady, Dorothy Dwyer, and Lucy Holstedt perform the ever-popular *The Mrs. Potatohead Show: A Celebration of Irish-American Woman Being*, in which "*South Park* meets *The Golden Girls*." Curtain is at 10:15 p.m. on February 23 and 24 and March 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, and 17. Staged readings include *Homeward Bound*, by Maria Beatriz Alvarez and Michael Bettencourt, "a play about the intersection of domestic violence and integration," at 7:30 p.m. on February 26; *Anam Cara: Two Women Fall into the Ancient Tale of Gilgamesh*, created by Anne Gottlieb, Susan Thompson, and Judi Wilson, with adapted text from Herbert Mason's verse narrative *Gilgamesh*, at 7:30 p.m. on March 7; and *Feeding Beatrice Greenidge*, by Kirsten Greenidge, about an African-American couple who move into an old house haunted by a young white woman, at 7:30 p.m. on March 13. The festival also includes a free forum, "An Afternoon with Kristin Linklater," in which the chair of the theater department of Columbia University and creator of the famed Linklater vocal technique for actors will discuss her work, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on March 4, and several other special programs. On two stages at Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston (332-0546), February 22 through March 18. Tix $20 for individual shows; $16 for seniors and students; $12 for late-night shows and Monday evenings; $5 for staged readings; $60 for festival pass.

■ **CHICAGO.** The Lowell Five-Cent Bank Performing Arts Series presents one performance of a touring production of the 1975 Kander and Ebb musical that in its 1996 revival won six Tony Awards. "A story of murder, greed, corruption, violence, exploitation, adultery, and treachery — all the things we hold near and dear to our hearts," the 1920s-set show pits two female murderers against each other in a duel for publicity and fortune, and features Bob Fosse choreography recreated by Ann Reinking. At Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack Street, Lowell (978-454-2299), February 22. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tix $23.50 to $42.50.

■ **COMEDY CABARET.** The Jewish Theatre of New England presents an evening of comedy featuring Julie Barr and Jim Dunn at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahanton Street, Newton Centre (965-5226), February 24 and 25. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $20, $18 for JCC members. $2 discount for seniors and students.

■ **CRAZED WOMEN (THE BAKKHAI OF EURIPIDES).** Laurence Senelick directs this student production of his own translation of *The Bacchae*. " 'Let the games begin,' exclaims Dionysos in Senelick's new translation, refreshing the comic sensibilities of the gruesome tragedy. In *Crazed Women*, it's *all* fun and games . . . until someone loses a head." At the Tufts Balch Arena Theater on Tufts University's Medford/Somerville campus (627-3493), through February 24. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Tix $10; $6 for seniors; $5 with valid Tufts ID.

■ **THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN.** Judy Braha directs this student production of Martin McDonagh's black comedy set on one of the Aran Islands off the coast of Ireland. It's about a disabled orphan called Cripple Billy and his attempt to use the making of the famed documentary *Man of Aran* as a way out of a bleak life among hilariously mean-spirited folk. At the Boston University Theatre's Studio 210, 264 Huntington Avenue, Boston (266-0800), February 21 through 24. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tix $10; $7 for seniors and students; $5 for Huntington Theatre Company subscribers and Boston University community.

■ **DAME EDNA: THE ROYAL TOUR.** Possums, she's finally here! The Tony-winning, purple-haired alter ego of Australian comedian Barry Humphries, fresh from a successful Broadway engagement, comes to Boston to "share her infinite wisdom and beauty tips" and free us from "a terminal case of EDS (Edna Deprivation Syndrome)." At the Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont Street, Boston (931-2787), February 20 through March 11. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, and at 2 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $25 to $65. (See our preview, on page 7.)

■ **THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA.** ART's resident Shavian, David Wheeler, directs George Bernard Shaw's 1906 serio-comic screed against the medical profession. Arguably, Shaw is more interested in reforming health care than in creating drama in this tale of an eminent doctor with a cure for tuberculosis who must choose between treating a poor, decent fellow physician and a gifted artist who is also an amoral scoundrel. (It complicates matters that Sir Colenso Ridgeon has a yen for the artist's wife.) Still, the issues of the play, if not its medical methodology, remain pressing. And Wheeler treats the material with a cocked eyebrow and a tender heart. Newcomer John Feltch does a subtle turn as Ridgeon, whom he renders dashing and discombobulated at once. "All professions are conspiracies against the laity," remarks one doc, and there are amusing turns by Will LeBow, Ken Cheeseman, and Jeremy Geidt as Ridgeon's co-conspirators. Presented by the American Repertory Theatre at the Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Street, Cambridge (547-8300), in repertory through March 14. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on February 16, 17, 21, and 22, and March 1, 6, 9, 10, 13, and 14, and at 7 p.m. on February 25 and March 4; there are 2 p.m. matinees on February 17 and 25 and March 4 and 10. Tix $25 to $59; discounts available for seniors and students.

■ **A DOLL'S HOUSE.** Tracy Brigden directs a new adaptation by American playwright and television writer Theresa Rebeck of Henrik Ibsen's famed turn-of-the-century drama about a wife who leaves home and "the door slam heard around the world." At Hartford Stage, 50 Church Street, Hartford, Connecticut (860-527-5151), February 22 through March 25. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday (with 2 p.m. matinees on selected Wednesdays), at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday (with 2:30 p.m. matinees on selected Saturdays), and at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $20 to $55.

■ **FLOYD COLLINS.** Paul Daigneault directs the New England premiere of a new musical by composer/lyricist Adam Guettel, with book by Tina Landau. The show, which opened at New York's Playwrights Horizons in 1996, is based on the true story of Floyd Collins, a Kentucky spelunker who in 1925 was trapped 150 feet underground while sniffing out a cave to turn into a tourist attraction. The rescue effort generated an above-ground media circus, but Guettel and Landau are more interested in Floyd as an all-American symbol: poet and profiteer, both made and unmade following his manifest underground destiny. Still, it's hard to build a musical around a man stuck in a hole, and Landau's book seems both skeletal and stretched out. Guettel's score, however, is another matter. A complex mix of Sondheim and bluegrass, it isn't easy to sing. But when well rendered, as it is by Elliot Norton Award winner Bridget Beirne, it's wonderful. As Floyd, Michael Mendiola is marvelously expressive, conveying a roller coaster of emotions while immobile and a gangly exuberance when sprung for a couple of dream sequences. Presented by SpeakEasy Stage Company at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Street, Boston (426-2787), through February 24. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, at 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, and at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $22 to $25; $19 to $22 for seniors and students.

■ **GOODNIGHT DESDEMONA, (GOOD MORNING JULIET).** Kate Caffrey directs Canadian playwright Ann-Marie MacDonald's comedy about a drab female Shakespeare scholar who is somehow transported into *Romeo and Juliet* and *Othello* to save the heroines from the plight the Bard has in mind for them while "engaging in a voyage of personal discovery." The *Village Voice* calls the play "Stratford-upon-Acid." Presented by Threshold Theatre in the Piano Craft Building, 791 Tremont Street, Boston (781-736-9694), through March 3. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $16; $12 for seniors and students. (See our review, on page 9.)

■ **THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER.** The venerable Boston Children's Theatre, where Julie Taymor got her start, presents the adventures of Winnie the Pooh and cohort, in Bettye Knapp's stage adaptation of the book by A.A. Milne. At Suffolk University's C. Walsh Theatre, 55 Temple Street, Boston (424-6634), through February 25. Curtain is at 2 p.m. on February 17 and 18 and from February 21 through 25. Tix $10 to $16.

■ **I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE.** The newly named Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly the 57 Theatre) announces itself with the Boston premiere of this long-running Off Broadway hit described as "*Seinfeld* set to music." "And sprinkled with saccharine," one might add, since *I Love You* is less quirky and more lovey-dovey than *Seinfeld*. The musical tour of heterosexual romance, with an enjoyable pastiche of songs by Jimmy Roberts and clever lyrics by Joe DiPietro, is a lot of fun, though. And the talented cast — Chip Phillips, Kathy St. George, Amy White, and Adam Hunter, under the savvy direction of Joel Bishoff — puts it across with brio. The excellent musicians are Kim Douglas Steiner on piano and Heidi Braun-Hill on violin. At the Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart Street, Boston (800-447-7400), indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 5 and 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, and at 3 and 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $29.50 to $49.

■ **IMPROV ASYLUM.** Voted Best Comedy Club by the 1998 Boston Phoenix Readers' Poll. At the Improv Asylum, 216 Hanover Street, Boston (263-6887), indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Thursday and at 8 and 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Tix $10 to $15; two-for-one with college ID on Thursday; $2 discount with college ID all other shows.

■ **KING O' THE MOON.** Steve Stettler directs the regional premiere of Tom Dudzick's sequel to *Over the Tavern*, which was a big hit at Merrimack Repertory Theatre several years ago. The time is 1969 and young Rudy Pazinski, a Catholic kid at war with nuns, hormones, and family upheaval in the earlier comedy, is now a 22-year-old seminarian AWOL from school to take part in his first antiwar protest. At Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack Street, Lowell (978-454-3926), February 23 through March 25. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday (excepting February 28 at 7:30 p.m.) and at 2 and 7 p.m. on Sunday (no evening performance March 25). Tix $20 to $34.50.

■ **LEAVING QUEENS.** Portland Stage Company presents the world premiere of a new musical with book and lyrics by Kate Moira Ryan and music by Kim D. Sherman. It's about an Irish-American photographer who returns from assignment in Kosovo to find her father has disappeared. "While searching for him she discovers the story of her family and her true self." At Portland Performing Arts Center, 25A Forest Avenue, Portland (207-774-0465), through February 18. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, at 4 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $27 to $32; discounts for seniors; select $12 seating for students 18 and under or with valid college ID.

■ **THE MANDRAKE ROOT.** Award-winning stage and film actress Lynn Redgrave stars in the world premiere of her own new play, "a work of dramatic fiction for seven actors that tells the story of Rose Randall, her daughter Sally, and Sally's teenage daughter Kate." It's billed as "a powerful drama that deals with themes of betrayal, sexuality, and the painful revelation of family secrets." Redgrave plays the family matriarch, a character inspired by her own actress mother, Rachel Kempson. Warner Shook directs. At Long Wharf Theatre, 222 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut (203-787-4282), through March 11. Curtain is at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, at 4 and 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, and at 2 and 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $15 to $45.

■ **THE MISANTHROPE.** Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre's Jeff Zinn is at the helm of this student production of Martin Crimp's contemporary adaptation of Molière's comedy, which places the hypocrisy-hating Alceste in a world of film stars, agents, and critics. In the Laurie Theater at the Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University campus, Waltham (781-736-3400), through February 18. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday (with a 10 a.m. matinee on Thursday) and at 2 and 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $10.50 to $14.50.

■ **MOTHER COURAGE.** The American Repertory Theatre presents this 60th-anniversary production of Bertolt Brecht's epic work set in Germany during the Thirty Years War between German Catholics and Swedish Lutherans. Written on the cusp of World War II and intended as a warning, the play centers on the indomitable Swedish peddler of the title, Anna Fierling, who pulls her wagon through the war, hoping to profit from it while keeping her three children out of it. The production is helmed by Hungarian stage and film director János Szász, who, with Erzsébet Rácz and ART dramaturge Gideon Lester, is responsible for the adaptation. Lester is also credited with the translation. The creative team includes Hungarian set designer Csaba Antal, Hungarian costume designer Edit Szücs, and Hungarian choreographer Csaba Horváth, along with ART lighting designer John Ambrosone and sound designer David Remedios. The cast is headed by Karen MacDonald in the title role; it also includes Thomas Derrah, Benjamin Evett, Mirjana Jokovic, Paula Plum, and John Douglas Thompson. The production incorporates songs by Paul Dessau, Hanns Eisler, and David Remedios. At the Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Street, Cambridge (547-8300), in repertory through March 20. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on February 20, 23, 24, 27, and 28 and

March 2, 3, 7, 8, 15, 16, and 17; and at 7 p.m. on February 18 and March 11 and 18. There are matinees at 2 p.m. on February 18 and 24 and March 3, 11, 17, and 18; and at 10 a.m. on March 20. Tix $25 to $59.

■ **NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY.** The Boston premiere of Richard Rodgers Award winner Douglas J. Cohen's musical, which is based on the novel by William Goldman that was also made into a 1968 Rod Steiger film. Billed as a celebration of "America's love of the notorious in the vein of Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* and Kander and Ebb's *Chicago*," the show is about a detective's pursuit of a publicity-obsessed serial killer who'll stop only when his name appears on the front page of the *New York Times*. Spiro Veloudos directs the production, with musical direction by Jonathan Goldberg. The cast includes Derek Stearns, J.H. Williston, Maryann Zschau, and Robin V. Allison. At the Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon Street, Boston (437-7172), through March 10. Curtain is at 2 p.m. (March 7 only) and 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, at 7:30 p.m. on and Thursday, at 8 p.m. on Friday, at 4 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, and at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $20 to $36. (See our review, on page 8.)

■ **PENN & TELLER.** Boldly billing themselves as "rip-off artists" rather than magicians, the magic-making duo of boisterous Penn Gillette and silent Teller are back, combining "favorite classics with some brand new sleight of mind." Not to mention the assertion that "Penn & Teller have been doing magic for 23 years and are so sick of it we could spit. So in the new show, we are moving into the field or religion and will be performing real miracles." At the Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont Street, Boston (800-447-7400), February 13 through 25. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday (excepting February 14, at 7 p.m.), at 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, and at 2 and 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $35 to $49.50. (See our review in "After Deadline" in the News and Features section.)

■ **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA.** The facially challenged homicidal voice coach is back, along with the hurtling chandelier, as the Andrew Lloyd Webber megahit musical based on the 1911 novel by Gaston Leroux returns to the Wang Theatre for the fourth time. And it reminds us once again why we keep coming back to the dark side. The Harold Prince production remains as lavish as ever, and this show belies the caveat that Lloyd Webber shows have only one song. Moreover, a new cast puts a different spin on the love triangle at the center of the tale of a ghoul who haunts the Paris Opera and falls for a young soprano whom he teaches to sing like an angel. John Cudia is a heroic, rather than a bland, Raoul, soprano Christine's daylight suitor. Ted Keegan has the requisite pipes for the Phantom. And Rebecca Pitcher is an animated, light-footed Christine who with her expressive voice, soft and weighty, seems capable of loving both men. As always, too, there's the question whether Lloyd Webber, who wrote the show for then-love Sarah Brightman, is Raoul or the Phantom. At the Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont Street, Boston (800-447-7400), through February 24. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, and at 2 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday; there is an additional Monday 8 p.m. performance on February 19 and an additional Thursday 2 p.m. matinee on February 22. Tix $16 to $71.

■ **THE PIANO LESSON.** Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe, who helmed Trinity Repertory Company's volatile staging of *Preface to the Alien Garden*, returns to take on August Wilson's 1990 Pulitzer Prize winner. Part of Wilson's cycle chronicling the 20th-century African-American experience decade by decade, the play is set in 1937 and has to do with a conflict between grown siblings about whether or not to sell an heirloom piano to finance a land purchase. Berniece clings to the family legacy; Boy Willie looks to the future. At Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington Street, Providence, Rhode Island (401-351-4242), through March 11. Curtain is at 7 p.m. on Tuesday (no performance March 6), at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, at 2 p.m. (March 10 only) and 8 p.m. on Saturday, and at 2 p.m. (no performance March 11) and 7 p.m. (no performance March 4) on Sunday. Tix $28 to $40; discounts for seniors, students, and audience members under 30. (See our review, on page 7.)

■ **PLAY IT AGAIN, SAM.** Suffolk Student Theatre performs Woody Allen's play in which "the ghost of Humphrey Bogart imparts his cosmic, comic wisdom about love and honor." At the Suffolk University Studio Theatre, 55 Temple Street (on the fourth floor of the Archer building), Boston (573-8680), February 16 through 19. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Friday through Monday, with a 4 p.m. matinee on Saturday. Donations accepted; limited seating.

■ **THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER.** James P. Byrne is at the helm of Thomas Olson's dramatic adaptation of Mark Twain's Tudor England tale of a beggar and a prince who change places. At Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 the Riverway, Boston (879-2147), through February 25. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and at 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday; there are vacation-week matinees at 1 p.m. February 20 through 23. Tix $10 to $17.

■ **RELENTLESS.** Double Edge Theatre, best known for its imagistic Song Trilogy, unveils the first piece of another projected work, *Garden of Intimacy and Desire*. Conceived and directed by Stacy Klein, it's "the story of a woman's search for independence — in the eyes of the society which surrounds her, in light of her own history and background, in relation to her partners, and in the intimacy of her own mirror." Research for the piece "has encompassed both the male and female vision of women, gender roles, and the erotic. Throbbing through this historical research is the presence of Susan Smith, the Medea of our times, whose act of drowning her children in a Southern lake remains a heartbreaking enigma." The performance is part of the International Consortium for Theatre Practices at the Farm, 948 Conway Road, Ashfield (413-628-0277), February 16. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tix $15; $10 for seniors and students.

■ **THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.** MIT Dramashop presents Richard Brinsley Sheridan's 1777 send-up of society gossips. Michael Ouellette directs. At Kresge Little Theater, 48 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge (253-2908), through February 17. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Tix $8; $6 for seniors and MIT students.

■ **SEX, DRUGS, ROCK & ROLL.** Stanley B. Theatre reprises its well-received multi-actor staging of Eric Bogosian's 1990 collection of alarming American males, from street people to high rollers. Daniel Jacques directs. At the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Street, Boston (426-2787), through February 18. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and at 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Tix $20; $15 for seniors and students.

■ **SHEAR MADNESS.** The dramatis personae of the audience-participation whodunit (which is now the longest-running non-musical in American theater history) continue to comb Newbury Street for the murderer of a classical pianist who lived over the unisex hair salon where the show is set. At the Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74 Warrenton Street, Boston (426-5225), indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, and at 3 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $34.

■ **SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR.** New Repertory Theatre's artistic director, Rick Lombardo, is at the helm of this student production of Luigi Pirandello's play. On the Main Stage of the Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Avenue, Boston (266-0800), February 21 through 25. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $10; $7 for seniors and students; $5 for members of the Boston University community.

■ **THE TAMING OF THE SHREW.** Lisa Wolpe, artistic director of the Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company, is at the helm of this all-female staging of the Bard's battle of the sexes. The production "begins in 1940s Italy, a world shattered by violence and corruption, but quickly transforms into a theatrical dreamscape where Kate and Petruchio discover their true selves as their comedic circumstances unfold before them." Presented by Boston Theatre Works in association with the International Society, at the Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont Street, Boston (824-8000), through February 25. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday (with a 10:30 a.m. matinee on Thursday) and at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $20; $15 for seniors and students. (See our review, on page 9.)

■ **THIS LIME TREE BOWER.** Súgán Theatre Company presents the New England premiere of spell-casting Irish playwright Conor (*The Weir*) McPherson's 1995 work in which "three young men from a Dublin seaside town tell their overlapping recollections of one fateful night. Together, their alternating, unabashed monologues relate a small-town coming-of-age tale that is full of observant, comic, and telling detail." Artistic director Carmel O'Reilly is at the helm of the production, whose cast includes Ciaran Crawford, Nathaniel Gundy, and Aidan Parkinson. At the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Street, Boston (426-2787), through March 10. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday (with a Saturday 2 p.m. matinee on March 10) and at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $18 to $23; senior and student discounts available.

■ **TO GILLIAN ON HER 37TH BIRTHDAY.** Waterfront Productions presents Michael Brady's play about a widower who deals with loss by going down to the beach to talk to his dead wife. John Budzyna directs. At the Firehouse Center for the Arts, Market Square, Newburyport (978-462-7336), February 22 through March 4. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and at 8 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Tix $11 to $25.

■ **TWILIGHT OF THE GOLDS.** Jan Powell, founder of the Tygres Heart Shakespeare Festival in Portland, Oregon, directs Jonathan Tolins's "modern American tragedy" in which the clan of the title face an ethical dilemma about which every family member has an opinion. At issue is whether an adult Gold daughter should carry to term a baby genetically determined to be gay. The cast includes Scott Barrow and Stephen Benson. At the Stoneham Theatre & Ensemble, 395 Main Street, Stoneham (781-279-2200), through February 18. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and at 2 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $25 to $40.

■ **VENUS.** Brown University Theatre presents Suzan-Lori Parks's potent 1996 play about the Venus Hottentot, a young black woman with an enormous posterior who in the early 1800s was lured from her home in South Africa to become a freak-show attraction *cum* love goddess on the European circuit. Maria Goyanes directs the Senior Director's Showcase production. At Leeds Theatre, 77 Waterman Street, Providence, Rhode Island (401-863-2838), February 21 through 25. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tix $13; $9 for seniors and Brown faculty/staff; $5 for students.

■ **THE WAY OF THE WORLD.** Outgoing Yale Repertory Theatre artistic director and dean of the Yale School of Drama Stan Wojewodski is at the helm of William Congreve's 1700 comedy of manners. Congreve's social satire skewers the courting rituals of the upper class, serving up, when Mirabell and Millamant hash out their rights within marriage, "the first prenuptial agreement." The cast includes John Hines, Jessica Boevers, and Drama Desk and Obie Award winner Mary Louise Wilson. The production is the centerpiece of a month-long conference entitled "Theatricality and Anti-Theatricality in the 18th Century," which examines the theatrical climate of the late 1600s and the 1700s and how it has changed over the past 300 years. At the University Theatre, 222 York Street, New Haven, Connecticut (203-432-1234), through March 3. Curtain is at 7 p.m. on Monday, at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday (with a Wednesday 2 p.m. matinee on February 28), and at 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday. Tix $20 to $36.

■ **THE WEIR.** New Repertory Theatre, in collaboration with the Orpheum Foxborough, presents this area premiere of Irish playwright Conor McPherson's Olivier Award-winning 1997 play. A rhythmic feast of idiomatic Irish speech, it's set in a rural bar where four men spin stories of ghosts and fairies for a female visitor, an attractive Dubliner who has just moved to the area. Like the author's *St. Nicholas*, the play is a paean to the power of storytelling. And in Rick Lombardo's lively production, the tongues flap as chillingly as a barroom door batted by a nasty wind. Then newcomer Valerie bests her entertainers with an inexplicable story of an almost unbearable encounter with the beyond that rearranges the electrons in the room. The cast is anchored by Richard McElvain as curmudgeonly fiftysomething Jack, who follows a showboating tale of "the fairy road" with a truer one, of wasted love and loneliness. Also irresistible is Billy Meleady as a scruffy leprechaun of a pub regular with a graveyard tale of his own. Rounding out the fine ensemble cast are Colin Hamell, Barry M. Press, and Dee Nelson. At the Orpheum Foxborough, One School Street, Foxborough (508-543-2787), February 16 through 25. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $26; $24 for seniors; $21 for members; $13 for students with valid ID.

■ **THE WOMEN IN MY SOUL.** Earlier in the evening, Boston Theatre Works presents an all-female production of *The Taming of the Shrew*. "More gender-bending antics" is the theme of its late-night offering, this one-man show written by Owen Robertson and Michael David Brown and performed by Brown. "Brown's performance is no drag show: it is an exploration of five distinct personalities residing in one man's commodious soul." At the Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont Street, Boston (728-4321), through February 24. Curtain is at 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tix $15; $3 discount with a ticket to *Shrew*.

■ **THE WORST OF ERIC BOGOSIAN.** Drawing from a selection of his greatest hits, including *Sex, Drugs, Rock & Roll*, *Pounding Nails in the Floor with My Forehead*, and *Wake Up and Smell the Coffee*, the gifted writer/monologuist "rolls down a hellish slope of modern attitude into the swamps of hilarious, frothing rant. Bogosian's junkies, businessmen, hipsters, panhandlers, and type-A personalities take you on a trip down the fast lane, the passing lane and the breakdown lane." Direction is by Jo Bonney. Presented by World Music at the Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (876-4275), February 17. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tix $25 to $30.

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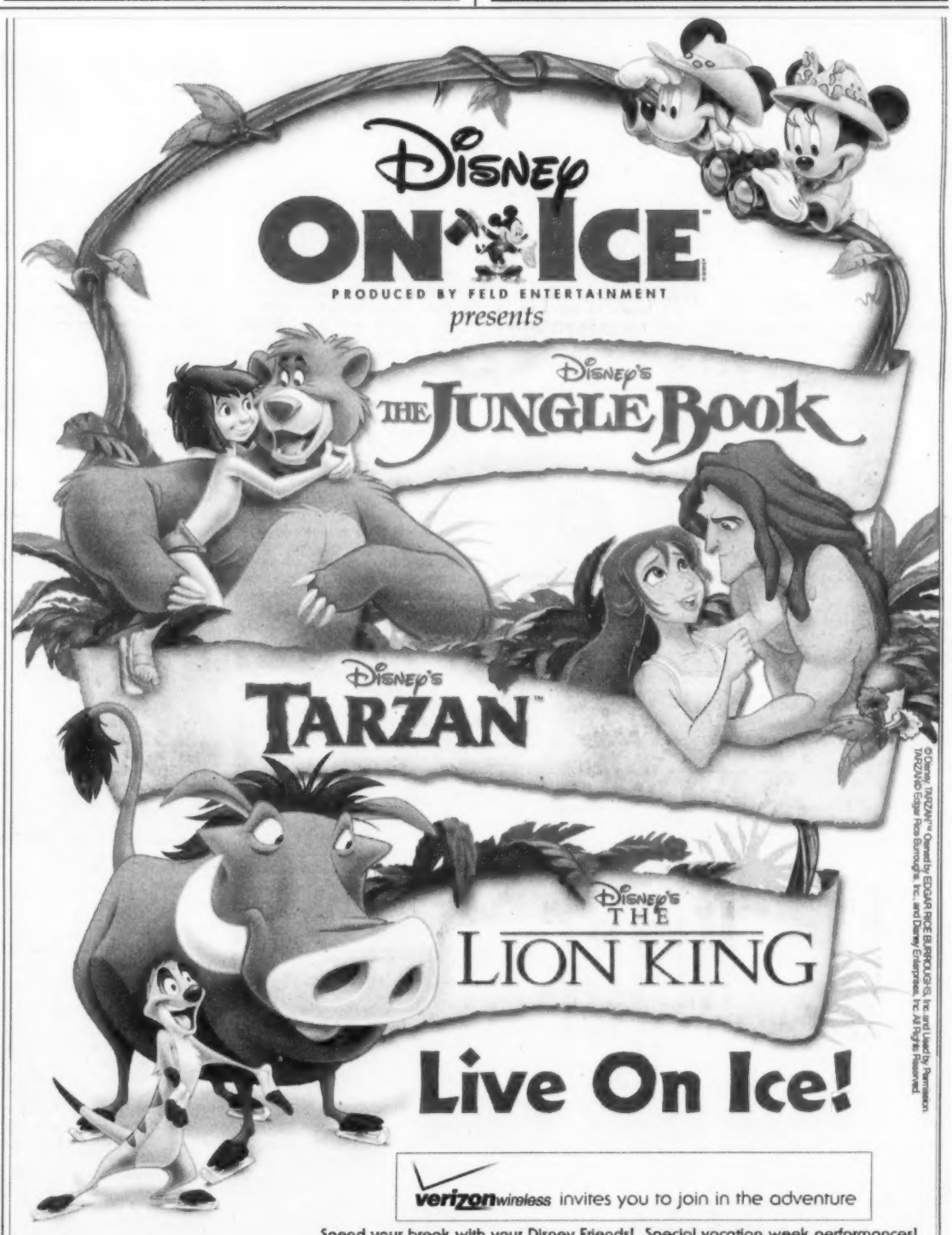
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comics

House of raging women

The return of *Love and Rockets*

BY DOUGLAS WOLK When the first issue of Jaime and Gilbert Hernandez's *Love and Rockets* appeared in 1981, it was instantly clear that it was a new kind of comic book: not quite one of the "underground" comics that thrived on spitting at taboos, not exactly one of the black-and-white fantasy series like *Elfquest* and *The First Kingdom* that were starting to pop up from self-publishers. *L&R* became a hit in the comics world, running for 50 issues over the next 15 years (they're collected in a series of paperback reprints from Fantagraphics), and inspiring a British band's name. A host of black-and-white and self-published comics followed in its wake, from *Eightball* to *Yummy Fur* to *Peepshow* to *Acme Novelty Library*. Now, five years after the Hernandez brothers went off to do their own separate things, they've reunited for a new *L&R* series, and there's *still* nothing else like it.

It didn't take the Hernandez brothers long to realize that they could dispense with the action-adventure and science-fiction trappings of their first few stories and concentrate on their characters, and that's when *L&R* really took off. They were among the first American cartoonists to think of comics as a medium for literary fiction rather than genre fiction; they were certainly the first with the skill and imagination to pull it off. And part of their secret was that they concentrated on things that can be done *only* in comics: images that communicate more than words, snapshots that imply a whole scene, and that distinctive iconographic language (as when squiggly lines rise up from their characters' heads when they're mad). For sheer command of comics as a form, few cartoonists are even in their league.

It also doesn't hurt that their major characters — almost all of them women — are some of the most richly realized in the medium. Their two best-known characters are at the center of most of Jaime Hernandez's stories: Margarita "Maggie" Chascarillo and her on-and-off friend and even more intermittent lover, Esperanza "Hopey" Glass. Over the past 20 years, we've watched them age in more or less real time. The series has followed them through punk tours, domestic drama, parties good and bad, shitty jobs, and occasional flashes of romance. The first time Maggie and Hopey appeared, in #1 of the first *Love and Rockets*, they were adorable, skinny teenagers; in the first issue of the new series, they're in their mid 30s. The lines on their faces have changed slowly, and Maggie's gradually gained a lot of weight. As she ages, she looks progressively more like her aunt, the wrestler Vicki Glori. The cover of the new Volume 2, #1 is a police line-up of the Maggies we've seen in the past: the businesswoman in a little suit, the early-20s hipster Maggie, the boozy, tank-topped Maggie from her lowest years, the blasé young mechanic with a Black Flag badge. Behind them is our first look at the new Maggie, a little older still, her hair bleached blond, covering her nakedness with her hands, looking a little worried, hiding behind the party girl she was a few years ago.

The image is poignant and funny, and it's also a nod to the first *L&R* cover: a line-up of four buxom aliens and superheroines, plus a woman in a bathrobe and curlers with a what-am-I-doing-here expression on her face. (The brothers have drawn variations on the "line-up" image more than a few times.) The big change between the two covers, though, is in Jaime's drawing style. The earliest issues were meticulously modeled and shaded, in the fantasy-art tradition of comics like *Heavy Metal*. Within a few years, he stripped down to a pure, bold stroke — he never uses 30 lines where just one will do. Jaime wears his cartooning influences on his sleeve, but they're not from the usual superhero axis; you can see the way Dan DeCarlo's *Archie* comics have rubbed off on him, and sometimes even Charles Schulz's *Peanuts*, as in his award-winning story "Home School."

For a cartoonist whose work is so stylized, Jaime's an incredible draftsman — you can look at any drawing of one of his major characters and usually tell how old she's supposed to be. (He uses that to his advantage, too. The chronology of his best book, *Wigwam Bam*, leaps backward and forward with no notice: the way the characters look is often the only cue.) His characters say as much with their body language as with his snappy, natural-sounding dialogue. The real force of his stories, though, is in how they add up — Hopey has barely mellowed with age, but Maggie's life has changed dramatically through the decades, as she's evolved from a hotshot "prosolar mechanic" who can fix anything to a middle-aged divorcée who's not doing much of anything. Even so, Jaime sometimes reminds us that she hasn't totally lost her skill. He doesn't draw attention to it, but Maggie casually fixes a broken phone in the new *L&R* #1, and in a way, it's the climax of the story.

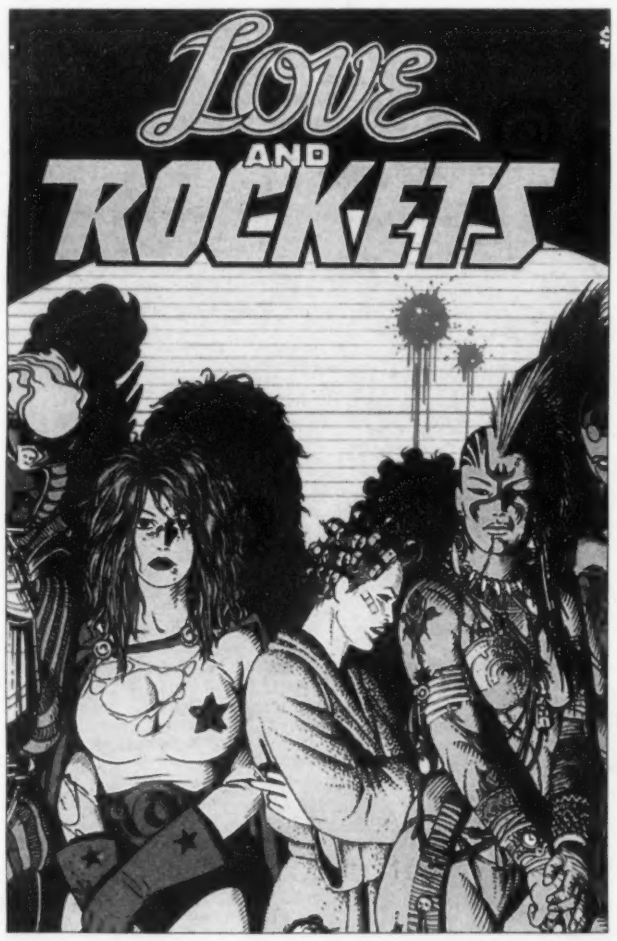
Hopey and Maggie appeared in the first panel of Jaime's first *L&R* story; it took Gilbert a little longer to refine his own set of characters. For the first few issues of *L&R*, his pieces were mostly short and experimental, aside from a long, confusing science-fiction serial called "BEM." Eventually, though, he started telling stories about a little Latin American town called Palomar and its inhabitants. The early Palomar stories are fairly explicitly influenced by Gabriel García Márquez (especially his *One Hundred Years of Solitude*). In time, they moved away from magical-realist flourishes and concentrated on the complicated relationships and feverish sexuality of the characters, especially a bathhouse owner named Luba (who'd first appeared in "BEM") and her mind-bendingly convoluted family tree in both Mexico and the United States.

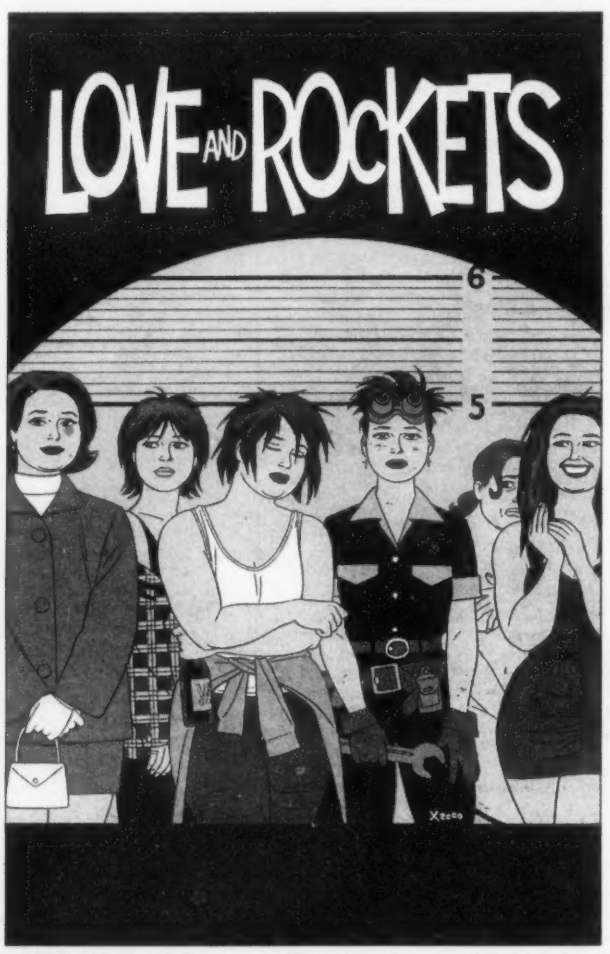
Gilbert's drawing isn't as easy on the eye as Jaime's — it's got a rugged, scratchy look that takes some getting used to — but like his brother, he's a master storyteller, though one with a very different style. His specialty is capturing a moment in a single drawing or gesture, and letting those moments tell the story, leaving the reader to fill in the intervening narrative — sometimes a lot of it. By *Love and Rockets X*, a serial that ran from 1989 to 1992, he'd worked out a rapid-fire, telegraphic approach: each panel's image and snatches of dialogue create an entirely different scene. Collected in a book of the same name, it shifts scenes 64 times in the final 66 panels. Around the same time, *L&R* also ran his "Poison River," a long story about Luba's early years, whose complexity makes the *Godfather* movies look like *Teletubbies*.

In 1996, the first *Love and Rockets* series ended, and the brothers went on to separate projects. Jaime continued in his accustomed direction. *Whoa, Nellie!*, collected last year, was a lovingly drawn, if insubstantial, mini-series about women wrestlers; the ongoing *Penny Century* series, now scheduled to appear annually, follows some of the non-lead characters from the Maggie-and-Hopey stories. (The first few issues have just been collected as *Locas in Love*.) Gilbert, meanwhile, went far afield. His *New Love* mini-series (collected in the new *Fear of Comics*) threw out his established cast of characters and settings, abandoned any form of realism, and ripped the lid off his id for six issues' worth of drawing experiments and messy, gruesome hallucinations. Then he capped it again and launched *Luba* — a return to Palomar and its exiles, the characters he can't seem to escape. Gilbert has also done a few children's comics, starring a little girl named Venus; in a beautifully twisted touch, Venus's parents are characters from *Birdland*, a triple-X-rated miniseries he wrote and drew in the late '80s.

So why the new *Love and Rockets* series? "The batteries are recharged and it just seems right," Jaime says in Fantagraphics' press material. The new #1 isn't the groundbreaker that the first one was, but it's a blast anyway. Besides the Jaime story mentioned above, it includes the work of a third Hernandez brother, Mario, who contributed only a couple of short stories to the original *L&R* series. Here he's written "Me for the Unknown," a serial drawn by Gilbert that has something to do with corporate intrigue. (Like Mario's earlier stories, it doesn't make a lot of sense, but Gilbert could draw the phone book and it would look stunning.) The serial Gilbert's doing by himself, "Julio's Day," concerns the century-long life of a man born in 1900, drawn in the scraggly, rural style of the Palomar stories, but not connected to them. So far it doesn't make much sense either, but the first installment has one classic Hernandez moment. As the young Julio and his big sister are out walking, a screaming teenage boy runs naked through the street; a couple pull a bag over the screamer, then uncover him looking dazed. Julio's sister, strolling on, says: "He could have a hundred fits a day and I'd still marry him."

The most exciting thing about the new *Love and Rockets*, though, is that it's a new *Love and Rockets*. Gilbert and Jaime are both cartoonists of the first rank, but their work is even better together; they're the Lennon and McCartney of comics. In places, the new series has a feeling about it that the first *L&R* had at the beginning (and tried to recapture toward the end): the sense that anything could happen, that the brothers are feeding off each other's energy and drawing to impress each other. Can't wait to see what appears in the next line-up. ■





SUPERHEROINES: *the visual style of* Love and Rockets *has changed significantly since the debut cover from 1981.*

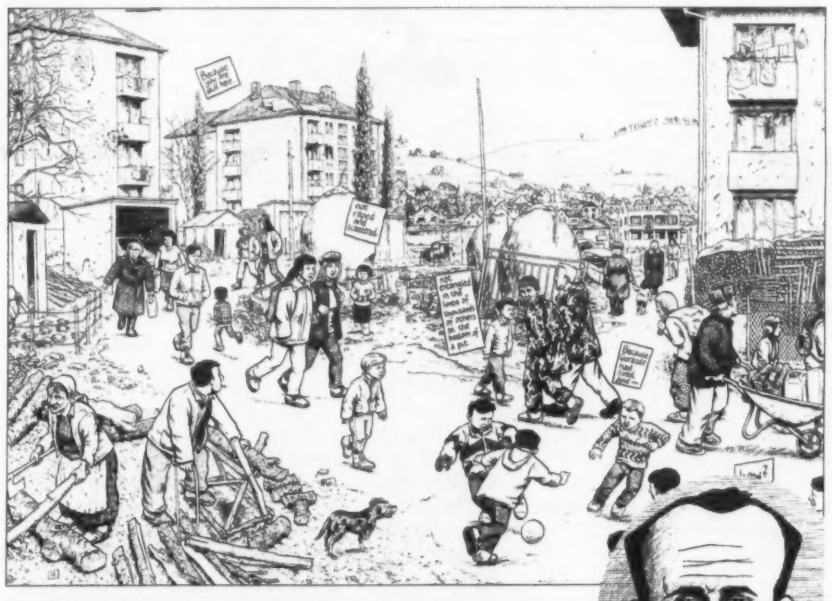
comics

Orwell with India ink

Joe Sacco's war journalism

BY JON GARELICK Since the publication of Art Spiegelman's *Maus* in 1986 (and its subsequent Pulitzer Prize), the forum for the "serious" comic book has exploded. The arcane investigations of Ben Katchor's Julius Knipl and the various surreal adventures of Chris Ware's Jimmy Corrigan have taken comics into lavish hardcovers, bookstore fiction shelves, and mainstream-press attention. Along the way, a new, wholly inadequate term has been invented: "graphic novel."

The 40-year-old Joe Sacco is yet another type in the comics world — the comics journalist. Sacco has done humor pieces and even a strip on Mississippi bluesman R.L. Burnside for *Details* magazine. But it's as a war correspondent that he's made his name. His latest book, *Safe Area Gorazde: The War in Eastern Bosnia 1992-1995*, comes with an introduction by Christopher Hitchens; it was reviewed in a full-page piece by the *New York Times Book Review*. His two anthologies about the Middle East, *Palestine: A Nation Occupied* and *Palestine: In the Gaza Strip* (for which he won an American Book Award), will be reprinted this spring in a single volume with an introduction by Edward Said. (All come from Fantagraphics Books.)



NEIGHBORHOOD: *Sacco's skill as a draftsman can encompass suffering (and pleasure) in a single portrait frame or a street-length panorama.*

Sacco's heroes are not only R. Crumb, but Brueghel, Céline, and George Orwell. In his first long-form collection for Fantagraphics in 1995, Sacco described his return to his native Malta (he'd begun attending the University of Oregon journalism program in 1981) and his tour of Europe with a rock band. But most of the book was given over to war. One 1990 piece, "When Good Bombs Happen to Bad People," was simply a meticulously researched collection of quotes from various contemporary sources — newspapers, magazines, military men, politicians — about strategic bombing: Germany by Great Britain, Japan by the US, Libya by the US. The text was accompanied by large illustrations — a bombardier's-eye view of falling weapons, Britain's Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris laying a fat index finger on a map, a skull's-head Ronald Reagan delivering a Libya-bombing-era speech, a blasted street in Tripoli. Another portion of the book was given over to Sacco's reflections on the Gulf War — his experience of watching the war unfold on television — and it crystallized the existential dread that bubbles through all the pieces. Sacco called the book *War Junkie*.

In 1991 and 1992 he spent two months in Israel, and that's when he stopped examining war from the distance of TV, the library, or the stories his relatives told him about World War II Malta. Living among the Palestinians, Sacco told their stories and drew pictures of the Gaza refugee camps. Despite the clear prejudice in the subtitle *A Nation Occupied*, Sacco's pieces are remarkably free of cant — he simply reports what he hears, taking us into the (often dirt-floor) living rooms of the people he's listening to.

It's this street-level eye and ear that makes Sacco's work invaluable. *Safe Area Gorazde* continues Sacco's obsession with violent conflict — ethnic conflict in particular. And in it he's living up to the ethos of his heroes. There's still Crumb's energetic line, the bravura full-page and two-page compositions, the meticulous cross-hatching and background detail. But in his later work, Sacco puts aside Crumb's exaggerated human physical features and obsessive depiction of bodily functions (a kind of sophomoric self-disgust) in favor of a sober respect for his subjects. What greet you in page after page of Sacco's two Palestine books and in *Safe Area Gorazde* — besides the bombed-out homes, the cold and mud, the stray dogs and slaughtered livestock, the occasional mangled human corpse — are faces. Each face is carefully individuated — rarely smiling, often exhausted, men bearded and clean-shaven, women and children, old and young. Sacco's depictions of these distant worlds, which most of us see only on television, bring our own world a little closer. After spending a morning immersed in the faces of Sacco's friends and neighbors, you might find yourself overwhelmed by the infinite variety that emerges from the usual anonymous mass of your typical trip on the Red Line. And that's where Sacco comes up to the level of that other hero of his: Orwell. Because here's where that carefully observed and depicted "other" becomes much like ourselves —

Continued on page 14

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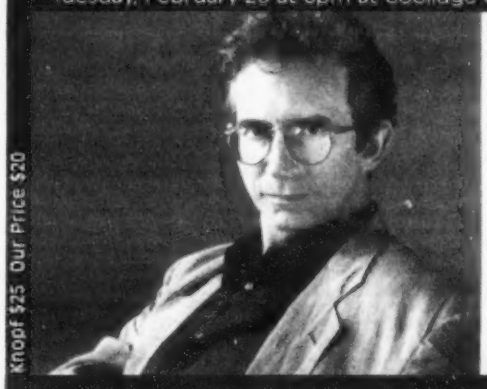

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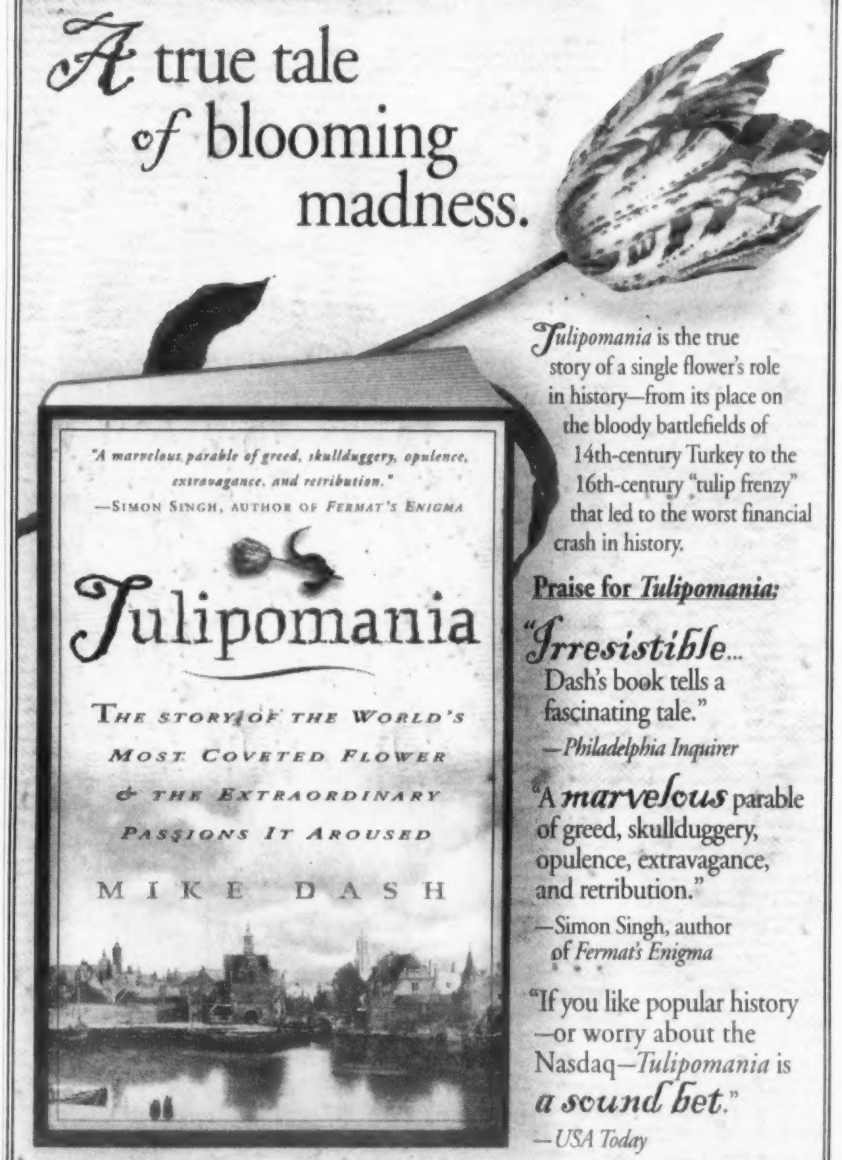
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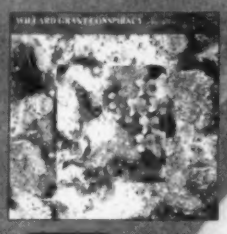

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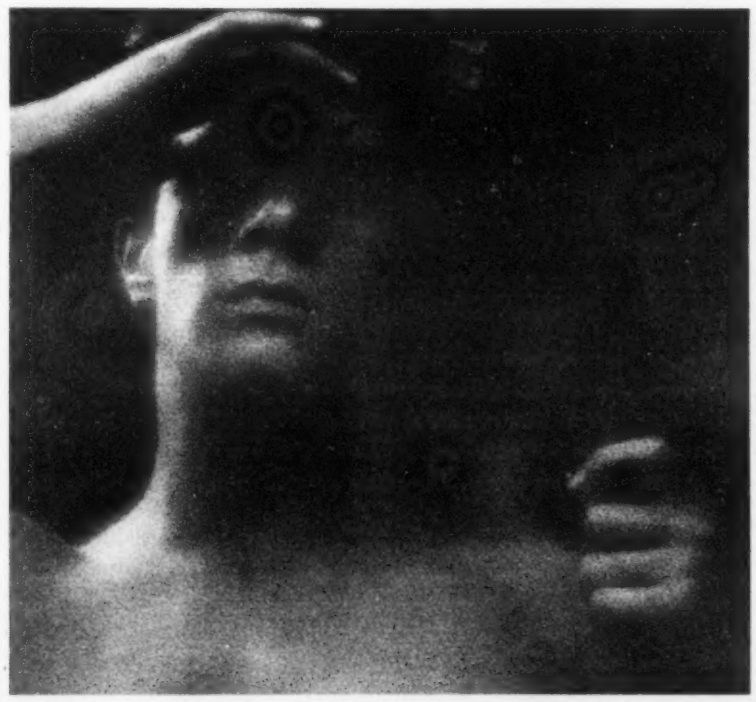

F. Holland Day, *Torso (Pilat)*, 1906. Platinum print. The Royal Photographic Society, Bath, UK, acquired from Frederick H. Evans, 1937.

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comics

Continued from page 13

the same, even.

Sacco's depiction of himself is always the same — shorter than everyone around him, with blank, bespectacled eyes and thick lips, his head covered in a knit cap (the ponytail of *War Junkie* long gone). A participant in his narratives, he occasionally mocks his own journalistic voyeurism. "I love hanging out in Palestine," he says in one aside, "making gritty and matter-of-fact inquiries about beatings and bruises and what have you." But most of the time, he stays out of the way. Those comments only give greater credence to his reporting.

And there's also his comic-book skill, the composition of his "sequential narrative." There's no better demonstration of comic-book art than Sacco's depiction of a Palestinian held in solitary confinement by the Israeli police for days on end, his head covered by a bag, his hands tied behind his back. Sacco's frames grow smaller and smaller with each day of imprisonment. Nothing happens, and yet we feel the numbing passage of time. As the comic-book artist and critic Scott McCloud says, "Space does for comics what time does for film." In *Safe Area Gorazde*, in a chapter called "White Death," a group of Bosnian Muslims march miles through the black, frozen night for supplies, one blackened frame giving way to another.

There are lighter moments, too: friends huddled in a darkened room around the light of a TV set; Sacco's Bosnian friend Riki bursting into Bruce Springsteen songs at the top of his lungs; and, in the midst of the carnage, a young woman crushed with disappointment about a pair of "fake" Levi's that have arrived from Sarajevo (in Sacco's recurring affectionate "Silly Girls" chapters). On one level, *Safe Area Gorazde* is a much-needed *Former Yugoslavia for Dummies*, with maps and chronologies, and with more "politics" than his Palestine books. But, as in that book, the careful depiction of details, of differences, makes his people all the more familiar. ■

Objective differences

Joe Sacco speaks on the phone from his Brooklyn home with soft-spoken precision — when I ask him to verify a fact, he says with quick deliberation, "That is correct." One of the things I'm curious about concerning the ethnic differences among Serbs, Croats, and Bosnians — usually Orthodox Christians, Roman Catholics, and Muslims, respectively — is this: these are a people with a single language, with a single racial "type," with none of the more obvious markers of ethnic conflict. So what is the difference, if any, in appearance?

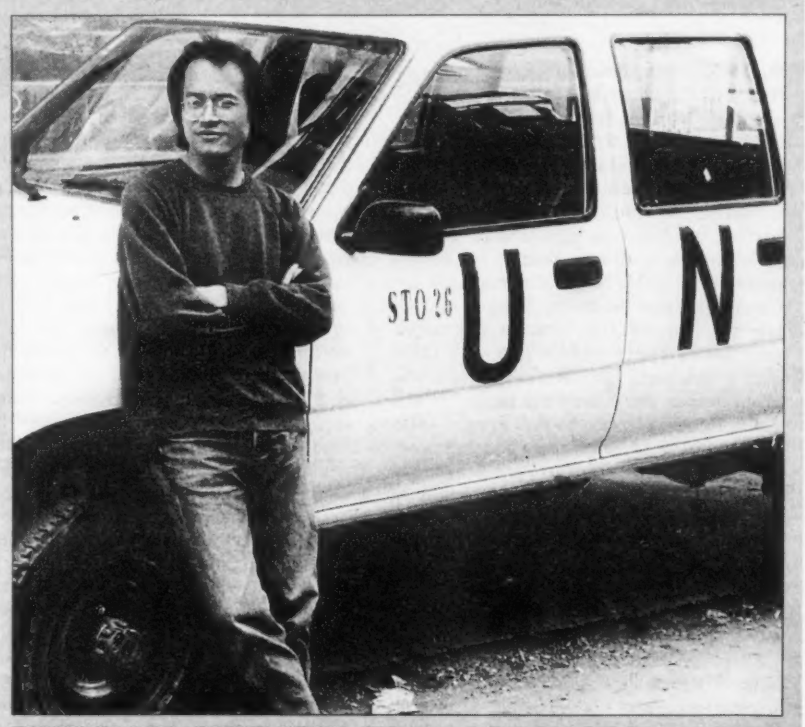
"Well, racially, there is no difference," says Sacco. "They're all white people, basically. They're all Slavs. There are no physical differences. When you get into the countryside, some Muslims might wear some conservative costumes, mainly because they're conservative people, but you also see Serbs in quite conservative costumes too. But if you're in a place like Gorazde, you just assume that almost everyone you're seeing is a Muslim, because most of the Serbs have left. In a place like Sarajevo, where everyone is actually from Sarajevo, they dress in a much more urban way that we're familiar with. . . .

"First names are a way you can tell. If someone's called Mario, you can assume he's a Croat, or at least that he has a Christian name. If someone's called Igor, you can assume he's a Serb — it's an Orthodox name. And if someone's called Mohammed, you can of course assume he's a Muslim. But no, there's no real way of telling.

"You know, an interesting story is that when I was there I met a young girl who happened to be Serb, and she was about 18, and I got to know her pretty well. And at one point, she told me that when the war started her parents were such good Communists that she had to ask them, 'What am I?' She didn't know where she fit in the war, because she didn't even know she was a Serb. Her parents had raised her as a Communist."

When I ask Sacco about his self-conscious depiction of his own role as a journalist, the combination of distance and empathy the job entails, he answers, "What journalist *doesn't* have an interview and then someone says something and the journalist thinks to himself or herself, 'That's the quote, that's what I needed'? You cannot help looking at things in that sort of professional way and being exhilarated that you're getting a story, that you were at the right place at the right time. If you're a journalist, you can't help feeling that — that's definitely part of it. And that's a different sort of feeling than really having empathy for people, and there's a contradiction there in a way . . . or maybe there isn't. I'm not sure. But there are two things operating independent of each other. They're both there. I mean, you definitely feel empathy for the people you're with, but you're also trying to get a story and you're thinking in terms of what's best to capture the story. Often that's a function of being empathetic, you know. You want to tell their stories well."

— JG



RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME: *"What journalist* doesn't *have an interview where the journalist thinks to himself or herself, 'That's the quote, that's what I needed'?"*

music

Nice and poppy

Coldplay break the American ice

BY GARY SUSMAN On America's radio, it's 1963 again. There's plenty of immaculately produced teen pop, but rock and roll is as good as dead. As it turns out, there are plenty of great rock bands in England, but they can't get arrested over here. Suddenly, there appears a clean-cut foursome who play oddly uplifting music, a quartet that, given a well-orchestrated marketing blitz from Capitol Records, has the best hope of any band from the UK to make rock matter again to listeners on these shores.

In February 1964, that was the Beatles. In February 2001, it's Coldplay. The band came out of nowhere last year to become the biggest thing in England since sliced kidney pie, selling out stadiums and becoming finalists for the Mercury Music Prize (the British Grammy). Their debut album, *Parachutes* (Capitol/Nettwerk), was released over here in November and quickly elbowed its way onto many critics' Top 10 lists. The album's soaring single, "Yellow," was soon the soundtrack to all the ABC network's prime-time promos. As *Parachutes* shoots up *Billboard*'s "Heatseekers" chart, Coldplay are currently swinging through a brief tour of the US, including a stop in Boston this weekend (It shows how hot the band are that their announced Paradise show sold out, and was quickly moved to the 1500-capacity Avalon, where it also sold out.)

It's a promising start, but Coldplay face an uphill battle against the overwhelming American indifference to British rock. The huge success of the Beatles' compilation *1* only underscores how long it's been since the Beatles and the two decades' worth of British Invasion bands that followed made waves in America. Even in the '80s, it took little more than a quaint accent, a novel haircut, and a guitar (or synth) to make it here. But by the '90s, hip-hop and homegrown alternative rock ruled the radio. Listeners here couldn't be bothered to discover British rock, despite all the attention that headline-grabbing UK superstars like Oasis and Blur got at home and everywhere else in the world. Even Radiohead, whose 2000 album *Kid A* (Capitol) managed to debut here on top of the *Billboard* charts and was widely praised by critics as the Most Important Rock Album of the Millennium, couldn't maintain its momentum in a *Total Request Live*–defined music scene that was infinitely more interested in Jennifer Lopez's ass.

Coldplay are often compared to Radiohead (or at least the pre–*Kid A*, guitar-friendly Radiohead) for the lyrical falsetto of singer Chris Martin, the versatility of guitarist Jonny Buckland, and the band's propensity for chiming, Bic-waving anthems like "Yellow." Coldplay have also earned a place among the "nice guy" English rockers (in contrast to the loutish "lad" bands like Oasis), including Travis, Doves, and Badly Drawn Boy — none of which have made much of a dent in America either. Coldplay's songs, though mostly slow in tempo and woven through with a strain of wistful British melancholy that can be traced back as far as the Kinks, are generally rousing and upbeat and won't shock your auntie with their lyrics.

Of course, being thought nice can be a career liability in rock. (Martin is famous in England for eschewing drink and drugs and for having a sex life only slightly more interesting than Britney Spears's.) Here you have four guys, all 22 and 23, who met five years ago at London's University College, started a band together two years later, and, despite some tension in the studio during the painstaking *Parachutes* sessions, are still gee-whiz about their skyrocketing success.

"It's been great so far," says drummer Will Champion, phoning during a break before last week's show in Portland, Oregon. "The shows have been sold out. It's been amazing. People have been singing along to all the songs, not just 'Yellow.' We've been stopped outside venues and asked for autographs. It's been incredible."

Coldplay disdain the labels used to pigeonhole them, especially the "nice guy" tag. "It is nice for us to come to a place where it's only the music people have heard, rather than all the nonsense that is the English press, where you get slagged off for being too nice," Champion says. He's referring to coverage that irked the band last year, when Alan McGee, founder of Creation Records and a key player in Oasis's rise, dismissed Coldplay as "music for bedwetters." Says Champion, "That thing didn't really make a difference to anyone. It was really pointless. It was just a thing for him to get publicity for his new record company."

As for whether there really is a "nice guy" wave of English bands, Champion says, "I don't know. We don't know about any other bands. We just do what we do. What you see is what you get, I guess."

In fact, the members of Coldplay can be as disarmingly guileless in conversation as they are in their music. Asked the origin of the group's name, Champion says, "It doesn't mean too much, to be honest. We got it off a friend because they had a band that went through about four names every week. They discarded it, and we said, 'Can we have it?' They said yes. That's about as far as it goes."

In trying to understand Coldplay's immense appeal, critics have grasped at all kinds of comparisons, not just to Radiohead and Travis, but to acts as far-flung as Jeff Buckley (for Martin's vocal range and virtuosity), the Smiths (for Martin and Buckland's Morrissey/Marr–like interplay of voice and guitar), the English "shoegazer" bands of the early '90s (you can tell Buckland is a My Bloody Valentine fan from the drone effect on "Yellow"), and even Dave Matthews (for the band's clean acoustic palette, especially on songs like "Parachutes," and for the timbre of Martin's voice).

Champion bristles at such comparisons. Of Coldplay's music, he says, "How do we describe it? We don't at all. That's why we play it rather than talk about it. It's difficult. That's why we're not public speakers. We're musicians."

One reason these songs work so well as stadium-ready sing-alongs is the universality of their lyrics; though they often have to do with the claustrophobia of the musicians' growing fame and insular friendship (two songs, "Trouble" and "High Speed," speak of living "inside a bubble," while in "We Never Change," the singer yearns to escape to "a wooden house" with his friends), they're general enough to be about all kinds of human bonds. "A lot of the album has to do with everyday problems," says Champion. "It doesn't really matter who you are. It's not necessarily about us. It can be applied to a lot of people's situations. But those songs particularly are about being in the middle of everything and trying to get away from it. A lot of the things are about relationships, and not necessarily with a partner. It could be about friends or parents.

"We can't write anything other than what we know. That would just be wrong. We can't write about growing up in the ghetto. It has to be something you experienced for it to have any conviction. Honesty is important to us. But we write about things that are quite everyday, so a lot of people have experienced the same things."

As a result, Coldplay have the potential to break through to more than just the cult audiences that other current English bands have mustered in America. Asked who's been coming to their US gigs, Champion says, "It's anyone, really. People don't have to be a particular kind of person to like our music. We had people come down to the gig yesterday [in Seattle] who looked like they should have been at a Limp Bizkit concert. It's not one particular type of demographic. We get people over 40, parents."

Champion knows it will take "a lot of hard work, a lot of meeting people" to break Coldplay in America, but it's hard work that has brought the band to the top in just three years. "We wrote songs for a year and a half before we got signed. It's not a hugely long time, but it's not like we got lucky. We knew we wouldn't get a second chance to make a first album. We realized we were in a great position to do something really amazing, and we didn't want to waste it. There's been a lot of stress in the studio and a lot of heavy touring schedules. We've put a heck of a lot of work in to get where we are."

Helping to expand the American fan base is a thorough Internet campaign involving multiple Web sites, including the band's own sleekly designed coldplay.com and Capitol's hollywoodandvine.com, where listeners can stream *Parachutes* in its entirety. Even Napster has been good to Coldplay, Champion says: "I've met a few people who've said they heard our album on Napster, and now they're going to go buy it."

Thanks to the ABC campaign, "Yellow" is ubiquitous, though that may be a mixed blessing, Champion says. "If it had been a hundred percent up to us, we would have said no. It's out of our control, I guess. We don't want our songs to be on everything. When there's no merit for us, when it's being used to sell someone else's product, then I don't think it's a good idea at all. It's something we'll become increasingly aware of, that we'll put a stop to."

A song as huge as "Yellow" can also become a millstone, though Champion says, "It hasn't really got ridiculous yet. It's become quite a big song, but we're not scared by it yet. The test comes with the second album, to prove that you're not a one-hit wonder."

At least Coldplay aren't sick of playing it yet. "We wrote it, and we like the song. There are thousands of people out there who've maybe heard the song but haven't seen us play. That's one of the things that keep us going, even though it may be our fiftieth show in a row." ■

Coldplay perform at Avalon this Saturday, February 17. The show is sold out.

FAB FOUR: *Coldplay comparisons have extended from Radiohead and Travis to Jeff Buckley, the Smiths, My Bloody Valentine, and even Dave Matthews*

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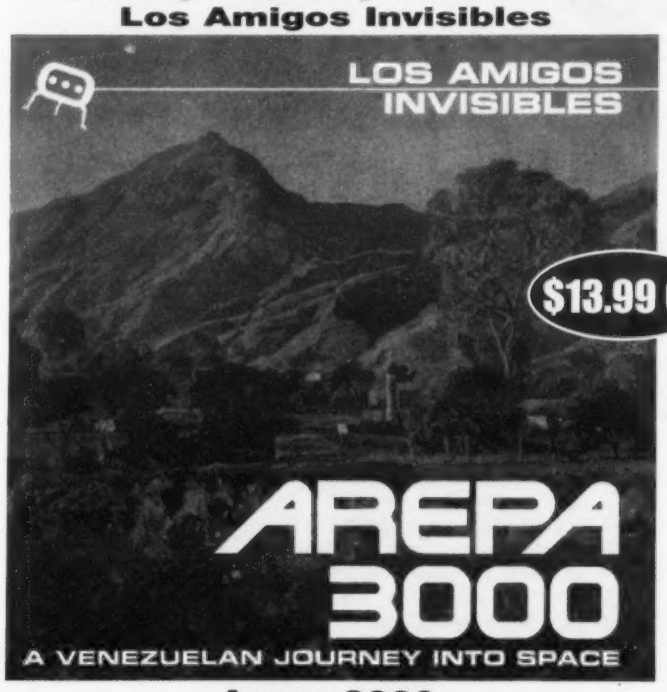

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music

Even Stephen

Malkmus rides solo

BY RICHARD C. WALLS Stephen Malkmus's first and homonymous post-Pavement solo album on Matador is brimming with nifty little songs that sound like personalized

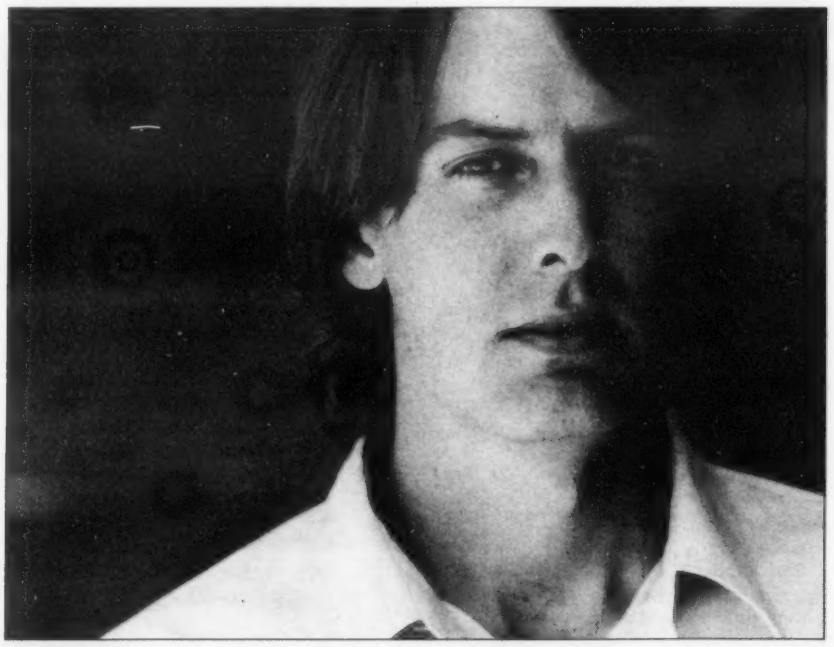
portions of other songs stitched together and given an overall gloss of — might as well get this word out of the way early on — irony. Not that irony is all that it used to be; when an aesthetic stance that was once used for garnishing becomes a semi-popular main ingredient, it's bound to lose some of its tang. Pavement and irony, as far as indie music goes (or went), really hit their stride around the same time (early '90s), when the group gradually began to peel back the fuzz from their sound and Malkmus perfected his art of stringing together cool non sequiturs. Discordant sound was eventually replaced by dissonant, allusive lyrics that offered what meaning could be grabbed on the run. Meanwhile the ironic slant (Pavement were basically, after all, funny) became a left-of-the-dial staple, and by their last album, *Terror Twilight* (Matador), the main distancing effect was an abiding professionalism. Which may be why the band broke up, though I doubt it.

Anyway, although *Stephen Malkmus* inevitably has some of that late-Pavement feel — staking its claim to below-the-mainstream cred not through shards of noise or frat-boy profanities but by dint of Malkmus's own recondite whimsy — it's altogether lighter than anything his old band put out. Fluffier, even; definitely airier. Although he's said (ironically, of course) that this project is like Pavement with a new rhythm section — Joanna Bolme on bass and John Moen on drums — it's more like Pavement without the tendency toward self-effacing obscurantism. Not that he's become horribly sincere or anything like that, or that all his lyrics suddenly make sense; it's just that you can hear most of them now, proffered with the aid of non-aggressive bandmates.

And what you can hear alternates between words being churned out by the old mock-heroic-poetry machine and shaggy-dog stories that have nothing but a middle. For some reason, or perhaps not, the single from the disc is in the former category, a pleasant pop/rock song that chugs along at mid-tempo and has lyrics that make you want to slap the guy — *e.g.*, "ceremonial dead trees told him all he could do." But then it also has "I felt up your feelings," which is worthy of Elvis C. back in the days when his mind was still racing, and "you'll never run aground/ when the sun is down," which would make a dandy pillow sampler. One can freely quote this stuff out of context without fear of misrepresentation. The beauty part is you're not always sure that you heard him right, which makes for some interactive musing, as in the middle of the nearly comprehensible song about fickle Greek gods, "Trojan Curfew," when he suddenly sings "you could see chopped tobacco in her teeth" — or maybe not, because there's no lyric sheet, and so that one may be mine.

But that's an old game, and the best songs are more straightforward. "The Hook" has an infectiously crunchy groove, coming on like a Stones tribute, complete with cowbell and an extended guitar-solo quote from "Tumbling Dice." Doing his best Lou Reed impersonation, Malkmus sings, "At age 19 I was kidnapped by Turkish pirates/Mediterranean thugs/after some torture they considered me their mascot . . . " and so on until the lad becomes a hardened pirate himself: "we were killers with the cold eyes of sailors," he sings, which is backwards, of course — can't let things get too normal. "Jenny and the Ess-Dog" begins "Jenny dates a man/in a '60s cover band" and goes on to describe their ill-starred romance with a surprising amount of telling detail, right down to Jenny's wretched toe rings. "Phantasies" is an imitation of an imitation, a "songoid" ostensibly reminiscent of the early '60s but actually sounding like something from *Grease* — a terribly cute but nicely cluttered fantasy about living in Alaska.

Ah, maturity. It makes for catchy, lucid songwriting. Still, there's a lot of the old BS being slung here, enough so that long-time fans who are still true believers won't detect the nasty taint of sellout. The Westerbergian "Pink India" is haughtily indecipherable (and, as on "Jo Jo's Jacket," the lyrics dissolve for an instrumental second half), while the equally impenetrable "Vogue Space" mocks sophistication with its ghostly traces of Lorenz Hart ("We'll split the difference/ call it quits/this is no new romantic blitz/ krieg"). The main tonality of the disc, though, is an open, barefaced vibe, as if Malkmus, having fronted one of the most original and influential bands of the past decade, felt he had nothing more to prove except that he can continue to write decent songs after the ragged strategies of indie assertion have become a less-than-hip affectation. For now. ■



IRONIC: Stephen Malkmus *has some of that late-Pavement feel, but it's altogether lighter than anything his old band put out.*

music

Puffy's angels

Jennifer Lopez and Dream

Pity the P. Daddy. For the past two weeks, Sean Combs has been trapped in court all day listening to testimony about how he did or didn't have a gun, did or didn't shoot it, and did or didn't try to bribe his driver

to claim ownership of it. Clearly, Puff's shook — he's hired O.J. liberator Johnnie Cochran and celeb-problem-solver Benjamin Brafman to defend him. And considering the tenacity with which the Manhattan prosecutor is pursuing a conviction — refusing a plea bargain, though Puff's people claim they never offered one — it was wise for Puff to devote all his energy, and finances, to ensuring his freedom.

Meanwhile, the ladies in his life are living it up. His girlfriend, the ever-saucy Jennifer Lopez, debuted at number one on the *Billboard* album charts with her second album, *j.lo* (Epic). At the same time, her latest film, the insufferably trite *The Wedding Planner*, beat all comers at the box office. Simultaneously, Dream, the white girl-group that by some machination of cred-sniffing marketing is signed to Puff's Bad Boy Records, debuted at number six on the album charts with *It Was All a Dream*, largely on the strength of their debut single,

SlanguisticS
by Jon Caramanica

"He Loves U Not," which just three weeks earlier had topped off the singles charts. Puff threw a swank album-release party for the girls in New York but, amidst the media swirl that is his trial, stayed away from it himself.

Not that there's really anything to celebrate. Dream certainly have achieved an outstanding measure of popular success in a short period of time, considering their general lack of talent (not that that stops any other groups) and their average (but gussied-up) looks. Don't get me wrong: it's refreshing to see success for girls who don't fit the stereotypical model of teen-waif divas. But that sort of aesthetic affirmative action doesn't change the fact that every track on *It Was All a Dream* sounds as if it came from the "prepubescent female whinny" preset button on an old Casio keyboard.

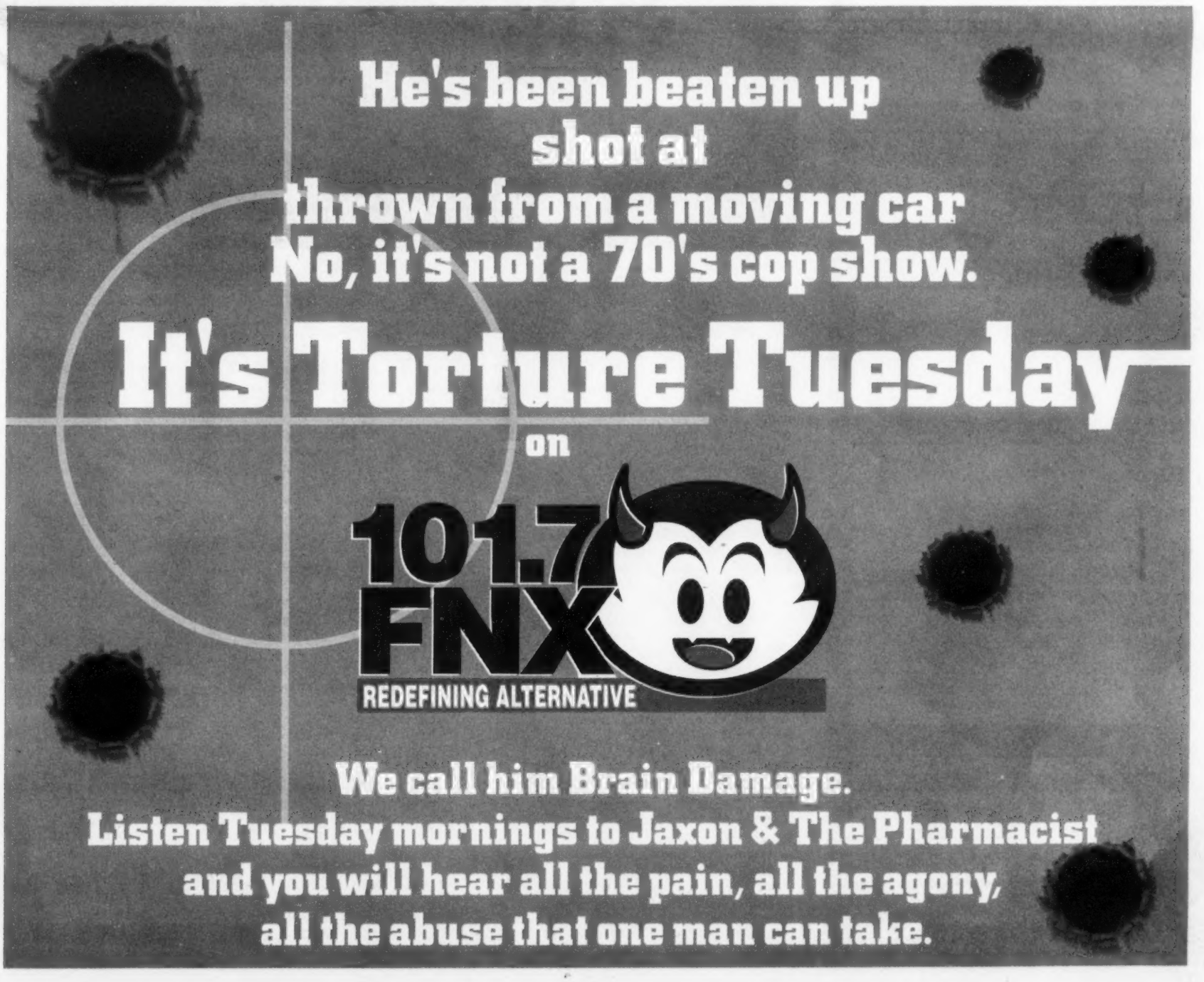
To their advantage, they're given an arsenal of support. Their songs, although saccharine, are fairly delicately penned. On "This Is Me," there's this minor insight: "She stole your heart/Only did it because she could/Chew you up and spat you out/That girl never was no good/Baby I would never do that/I'll love you faithfully/But your suspicious mind thinks/I'm gonna repeat her story." (It'd be great if they were actually feminists on the sly and were singing "herstory" instead of "her story," but methinks I expect too much from the machine.) The gems are few and far between, but Dream still muster mini-nuggets of girl spice, particularly Ashley, positioned as the group's badass in spite of her corporate-style power haircut. On "Pain," co-produced by Puffy,

BREAKING FREE: j.lo *seems to be Lopez's strike-back record.*

Ashley invokes her de facto Ebonics privilege, rapping "Sup witchu?/You're gonna regret this for the rest of your life/Cuz I'm going on tour/I'm bout to blow up/You'll see me on TV/And know you messed up." Word up, ma.

You've gotta wonder whether Puffy isn't taking those words seriously right about now. Though he's got cred from the 'hood to the Hamptons, you can't help feeling that his strategic alliance with Jennifer Lopez was designed to bolster his standing in both worlds. After all, her curve was rising just as his was leveling, and there are plenty of rooms an aspiring Latina actress/singer can get into that an aspiring black male rapper/producer can't. In many ways, *j.lo* seems to be Lopez's strike-back record. Rumors have been flying of late that Lopez has ended her relationship with Puffy (she's barely been seen in court, probably because of her promotional schedule, but it's said that she's taken up with one of her dancers), and clouds of aspersion linger all over *j.lo* (though in interviews, she's vigorously denied that any of the songs have to do with Puff).

As my girlfriend pointed out to me, nearly all the songs co-written by Lopez herself make reference to destructive relationships — "Ain't It Funny," "We Gotta Talk," and "I'm Gonna Be Alright." In fact, weed out the boy-I-love-the-clubs cuts and the Spanish ballads, and you've almost got a script for a romance disaster. "Love Don't Cost a Thing" inverts the bling-bling trend: "What I need from you is not available in stores," she complains, and in the video, she symbolically shucks luxury item after luxury item before running into the ocean to cleanse herself. "I'm breaking free/I'm going to find me," she sings on "That's Not Me," inadvertently echoing Dream later in the song when she sings, "How could you go dis me/When you know one day you'll miss me." Here's hoping Puff settles his accounts — financial and emotional — before he faces a long trip far from home. ■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live & on record

MEAT PUPPETS: STONED ALONE

Two out of three ain't bad. One out of three, though, is a crapshoot, especially when it's a band whose unpredictable live shows, back in the day, were at least as remarkable for the deeply stoned interplay between the band's two brothers and their drummer friend as they were for the songs they might play on any given night. In fact, I seem to recall one rather deeply stoned Meat Puppets/Minutemen double bill in the mid '80s — I'm guessing shortly after the release of the Meat Puppets' second-best album, *Up on the Sun*, which came out on SST in 1985 and on Rykodisc last year — at which I had trouble recognizing any of what they played. That might not have been entirely the band's fault, though I can state with authority that all the delicate, airy bluegrass shadings of *Up on the Sun* and the even greater 1983 album *Meat Puppets II* (also re-released by Ryko last year) were sandblasted into oblivion by the combined distorted roar of Curt Kirkwood's guitar and Cris Kirkwood's equally distorted bass. Not that I minded: with Derrick Bostrom banging away at his kit, the Meat Puppets rocked. Hard.

"Plateau," one of the greats from *Meat Puppets II*, seemed to have mutated into something resembling a rap-metal number. That might have won over an uninitiated crowd, but the folks at Lilli's looked more like old-school fans. If, like me, you were looking for bright spots, there was a awfully nice version of "Up on the Sun" late in the set. But, as one of the friends I'd brought along put it when I asked his impressions, "Ah, I think I'm going to go take a piss."

— Matt Ashare

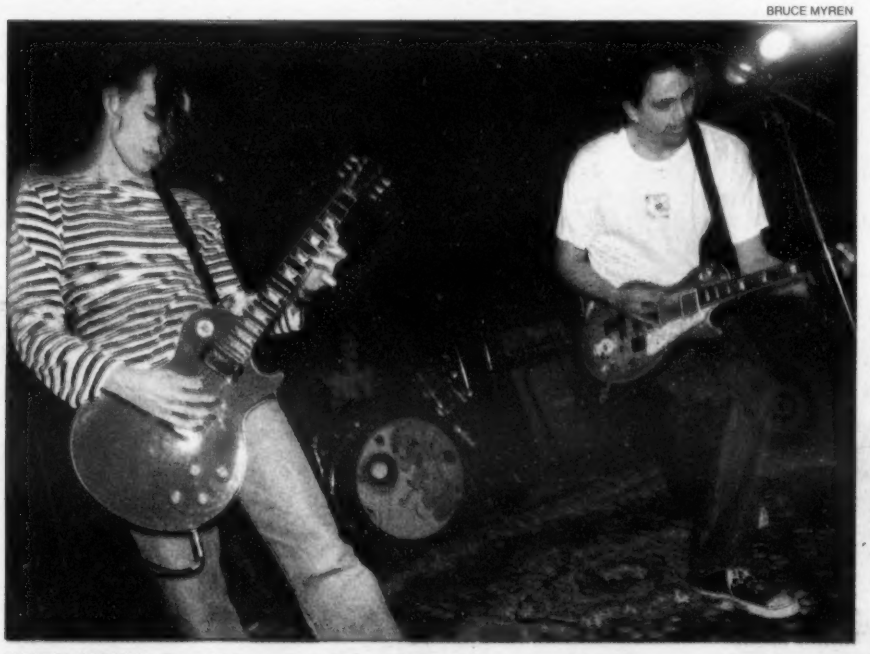
SNOCORE ROCK: WIPE-OUT

The annual SnoCore package tour has been one of rock's silliest marketing exercises ever since its debut outing a few years back. Things got even sillier this year when the organizers decided to split the tour into rival factions: the neo-hippie Icicle Ball (which hit Avalon last Wednesday with Les Claypool's new side project, among others) and a ye-olde-rock edition (which stopped at the Palladium in Worcester last Friday and hits Lupo's in Providence this Friday with co-headliners Fear Factory and Kittie). Unfortunately, neither line-up packed the juice of last year's tour, brightest days may be ahead.

Kittie have been on tour nonstop since all the fuss started over them a year ago, and the girls looked a little the worse for wear when they took the stage at the Palladium. The crowd was ready for violence, but the musicians did little more than stand in place with their heads buried in their instruments. Still, singer Morgan Lander has one hell of a snarl, and to my ears Kittie take enough left turns in their songs to transcend the mere novelty of teenage girls playing death-metal. But even the spunkiest feline needs a catnap now and then, and their time has come.

— Sean Richardson

BRUCE MYREN



HARD ROCK: *Curt Kirkwood (right) assembled the current Meat Puppets with enthusiastic hired guns.*

The Meat Puppets who came to play before a capacity crowd at Lilli's last Saturday night tried hard to rock. In fact, they may have been trying too hard. They never really managed to rock hard, though, at least not the way the old Meat Puppets once did. Of course, this wasn't the same band. As most people seem to know at this point, Cris is a hopeless junkie on permanent leave and exile from the band and from his brother. Even without knowing too many of the details, it's a sad situation. It's enough to make you want to like what Curt's done with the band in Cris's absence whether or not it's any good. Meanwhile, Bostrom's on a much more benign and perhaps temporary leave. This has left Curt as the (stoned a-)lone original Puppet, leading what by all appearances is a well-meaning, enthusiastic young trio (rhythm guitar/bass/drums) of hired guns on a tour to promote the new Meat Puppet(s) album *Golden Lies*, on Hootie and the Blowfish's Atlantic imprint Breaking — as if there were any way to make the whole situation seem just a little sadder.

It didn't help matters any that Curt opted to play the new "Take Off Your Clothes," a tune from *Golden Lies* that's unfortunately rap-metal in nature, early in the set — or that they played "Wipeout," the disc's other rap-metal misstep, at all. Or that which caught rising stars System of a Down and Incubus on their way up.

Last Friday in Worcester, SnoCore Rock was further decimated when Powerman 5000 clones the Union Underground, who held more current radio buzz than anyone else on the bill, canceled at the last minute. It was an inauspicious development — one that newcomers Slaves on Dope and Boy Hits Car had little hope of redeeming with their short opening sets. By the end of the night, only tech-metal vets Fear Factory were able to break out of the winter doldrums.

Though best known for their hit cover of Gary Numan's "Cars," Fear Factory have been underground faves since the early '90s, when they and a few others founded new-metal in the dark days of grunge. As they trotted out the oldies along with tunes from their forthcoming *Digimortal* (Roadrunner), it was easy to see how they've been able to maintain a cult following for so long. Burly Mexican dudes Dino Cazares and Raymond Herrera — on guitar and drums, respectively — gave the music its razor-sharp thrash kick, while singer Burton C. Bell and bassist Christian Olde Wolbers brought the hard-core rage. "Cars" didn't make it onto the set list, but the synth-fried new-wave comeliness of the band's biggest hit informed most of the new stuff they played — suggesting that their

ALL-STAR GAMES: GRAND SLAM AT THE R-BAR

Most all-star jazz groups are little more than an excuse to throw together some good soloists and let them blow. Grand Slam are an exception to the rule. Guitarist Jim Hall, saxophonist Joe Lovano, bassist George Mraz, and drummer Lewis Nash offer plenty of great soloing, to be sure. But on their debut CD, *Grand Slam: Live at the Regattabar* (Telarc), and in the first set of their return engagement at the Harvard Square club, this all-star quartet proved they're out to forge a genuine identity as a band with more depth than a jam session.

Lovano's tossed-off virtuosity and Hall's understated intelligence set the tone for the group's seemingly casual brilliance. Lovano, who was recently appointed the first Gary Burton Chair in Jazz Performance at Berklee, paced every solo with the assurance of a master. On Hall's "Say Hello to Calypso," he held back at first with phrases that hung suspended over the rhythm section, then dug into the groove with melodic phrases of different shapes and sizes. On his own "Chelsea Rendezvous," he colored his lines with moans, slurs, and wails that deepened the tune's soulful atmosphere. In his contrasting way, Hall was just as crafty — on the opening "Slam," he carefully placed and weighted his notes, forming cryptic little melodic fragments. Then on Lovano's "Blackwell's Message," his solo flowed more smoothly, with occasional lagging notes to create rhythmic tension and tightly voiced chords to break up his phrases into varying lengths.

Mraz is a self-effacing team player who's more concerned with substance over technical flash. Still, his exceptionally lyrical solo on "Skylark," the set's only standard, proved he has technique to spare. Lewis, whose crisp inventiveness was a highlight of the set, simply bubbled over with ideas. He played in unison with the melody on "Slam," interjected supportive fills into Hall's "Blackwell's Message" solo, and matched Lovano lick for lick in their duo on "Feel Free."

Although all four players could certainly rest on their laurels, they also seemed willing to take risks. "Slam" required members of the band to weave their improvisations around a tricky stop-and-start theme. "Feel Free" separated the quartet into free-jazz duos. "Chelsea Rendezvous" began and ended with out-of-tempo group improvisations. "Skylark," the old Hoagy Carmichael tune, was abstracted, paraphrased, passed in and out of tempo, and utterly transformed. Grand Slam covered all the bases.

— Ed Hazell

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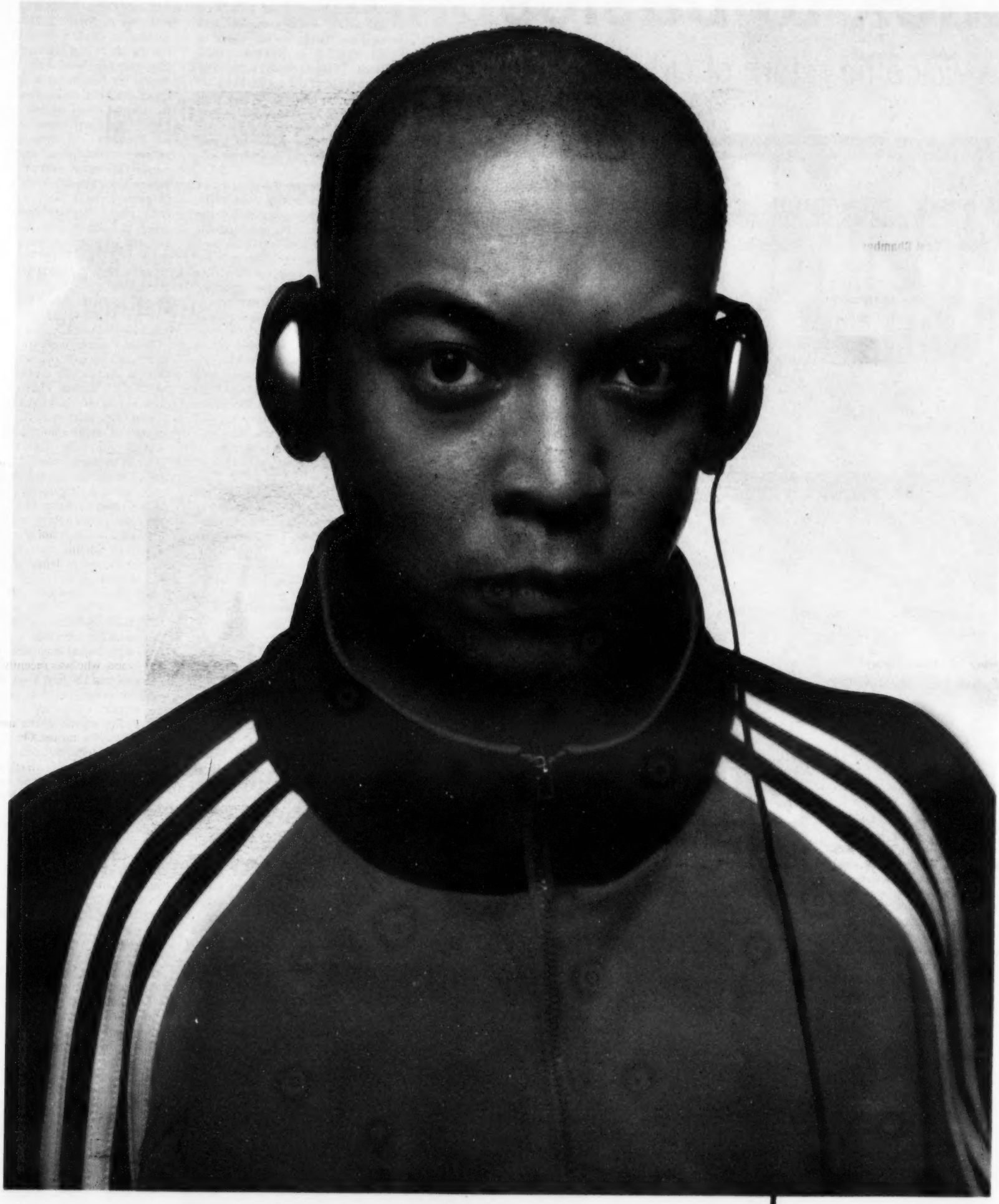

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cover story

Back to basics

The welcome return of Orbit

NEEDED: *an alt-rock guitar trio who look good, play hard, and write catchy tunes.*

Continued from the cover

Compared to Orbit's major-label album *Libido Speedway* (A&M, 1997), the sound on *XLR8R* is more modern, making good use of the loopy bass and guitar textures that one can get from working at home with Pro-Tools. And singer/guitarist Jeff Robbins keeps getting more resourceful as a songwriter: he's comfortable enough to write a moody ballad like "Touch Me" alongside the kind of hooky rockers that got Orbit signed to begin with. *XLR8R* is an enhanced CD, and its live videos reprising most of the album tracks — some taken from club gigs, others from an acoustic living-room session — wind up capturing the band's charm at least as well as the studio tracks. The band will celebrate the release of *XLR8R* with two shows at T.T. the Bear's Place on March 2 and 3.

Orbit's influences haven't gotten any less easy to pinpoint: the opening title track sounds more like the Pixies than has anything Frank Black's done solo. And strains of Hüsker Dü, Nirvana, and the Replacements turn up throughout. But here again, time and craft are on Orbit's side: if there was overkill of that sound in 1995, nowadays it's refreshing to hear it done well.

"I'd rather get compared to good bands than bad ones," Robbins noted last week from his home in Providence. "We only seem to get compared to bands we like, so it's not so bad. I wouldn't say that our sound is derivative, but we're fairly middle-of-the-road, nothing too avant. It's just a question of what Paul and I like to listen to." Adds Buckley in a separate interview at Cambridge's 1369 Coffeehouse, "We clearly

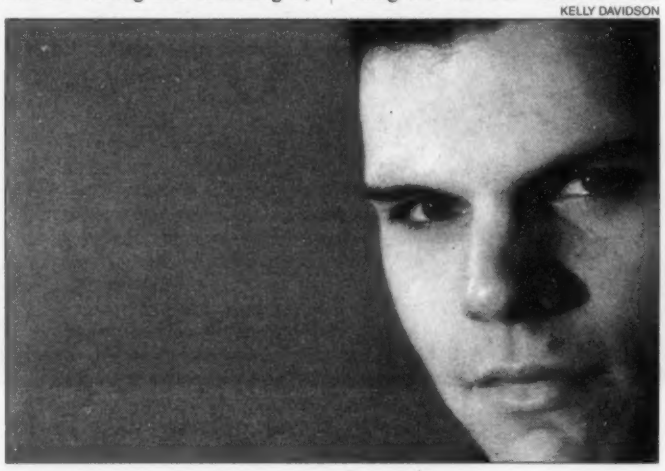
cellars by starlight
BY BRETT MILANO

formed the band out of our love for the Pixies: that was the common ground between Jeff and myself. They were comparing us to the Pixies when we started out, and to me that was a huge compliment. But nowadays we take everything we like into every record we do, and I think it all comes out sounding like Orbit."

Robbins also says that when Orbit started out, the plan was to carry the sound they loved a step further. "We knew we came from the Boston indie-rock kind of sound, that we were somewhere between the Pixies, Throwing Muses, Buffalo Tom, and the Lemonheads — that was the scene that we felt we were coming out of. We also felt that in the scheme of things, all those bands tended to be relatively low-fi. So we felt it would be a good idea to tackle that sound and make a giant-sounding record out of it, trying to juxtapose the big sound with our quirkier inclinations. Of course, that was the sound that later became homogenized in the form of Fuel."

In fact, Orbit wound up more successful than many Boston bands with major-label deals: *Libido Speedway* got some national airplay, and Buckley says that total sales are now close to a very respectable 100,000. But that wasn't enough to bail Orbit out when the Universal/Seagrams takeover rolled around the following year. By then they'd already completed a follow-up album, *Guide to Better Living*, and had to wait nearly a year before the new company finally declined to release it. (Thanks to a smart bit of negotiating, Buckley kept the right to release any Orbit material as singles or EPs on Lunch, so a few of its tracks have slipped out.) "You bet it was discouraging," Robbins says. "Not only did we spend six months writing and recording it, but we spent another six months driving around in our cars going, 'Hey, this is a good album. I can't wait for it to come out.'"

KELLY DAVIDSON



EMOTIONAL BOY: *reference points for Myke Weiskopf's Science Park are the better bits of Gary Numan and OMD.*

Meanwhile Orbit's profile was getting eclipsed by that of their bass player. Wally Gagel cut his production/engineering teeth on *Libido Speedway*. Then he worked on a left-field hit with Folk Implosion's "Natural One." Before long the Rolling Stones were bringing him aboard for indie-rock credibility on their last album. "We'd be doing a show in Houston, and Wally would fly out telling us stories about hanging out with Mick and Keith," Robbins recalls. "And we'd say, 'Great, we just stayed at the Motel 6 in Nowhere, West Texas.'" Gagel remains a friend of the band and did some mixes on *XLR8R*, but his bass slot has been taken over by Permafrost/Frigate member Linda Bean. And Fred Archambault, their guitar tech and part-time guitarist, has joined full-time.

At the moment, the prospect of going indie is looking more exciting to Orbit than going back to the majors. "I had a big epiphany onstage in New York," Robbins says. "We were playing showcases for record labels again, getting nervous for the first time in years. And it hit me that it was ridiculous, that we could really be doing it ourselves. We started out very anti-record-deal, just playing for the audience and doing what we thought was good. Then you lose yourself and start doing what other people think you should do, and that was something we got real sick of. So we wound up saying, 'Fuck that — from now on we're back to doing only what we think is good.'"

In the meantime, Buckley has become one of the busiest drummers in Boston, and the antithesis of every joke that's ever been made about drummers. They're supposed to be the wild ones in every band, but Buckley is disciplined enough to play in four different bands (in the past year he's made albums with all four: Orbit, ex-Shod Dave Aronoff's Details, ex-Bosstone Nate Albert's new combo, and Kay Hanley, whose solo debut is nearly done). Not to mention running Lunch, which is turning into one of Boston's most successful indie labels. Not to mention booking the currently popular Tuesday Night Music Club series at the Kendall Café. Or having a stint at WFNX, working in the marketing department and handling an overnight air shift, on his résumé.

"The good part is that nothing is keeping me in one spot," he says. "This way I don't always have to be worrying about when I can get another drumming gig, or what's happening with the label. If one thing isn't going great, something else will be." Orbit are still his main band, but he has no problem being Boston's answer to Jim Keltner, a precise drummer who specializes in working with songwriters. "Orbit is a team effort," he says. "With Kay it's Kay's band and with Nate it's Nate's band. I always try to do the least amount of drumming possible, and I think songwriters like that they're not competing with me. Plus, I play really well to a click track."

His Lunch label was originally one of the many small and devoted indie labels in town. It was originally called Breakfast until someone from Pennsylvania showed up with that copyright ("so we just decided to move it up a meal"). But the label's lately taken the next step, signing local acts with a strong fan base. Last year it released the Shods' last album, and the current roster includes guitar hero Rich Gilbert's band the Cornet Premiers and indie-pop favorites Vic Firecracker and Helicopter Helicopter. And of course, having Orbit aboard doesn't hurt. "I guess I run a boot camp for indie rock," Buckley says. "I'm trying to build the label slowly. If you can keep building your audience you can keep releasing records. There are some bands out there doing it — Superchunk with the Merge label and Sloan with Murder. Those are pretty close to what I aspire to be."

Buckley was in radio from 1991 to '95, at a time when it was looser than it is now. His overnight air shift for WFNX was relatively free-form, so he was allowed to sneak in tracks by local bands and new bands that caught his interest. He proudly notes that he was the first local DJ to play Counting Crows. Asked about the current state of rock radio, he turns diplomatic: "Rock radio to me is like an old girlfriend, where you're still trying to find the spark again. But I think a lot of people are disenchanted." Does he think he could fit in on the airwaves now? "Well, I definitely don't do dick jokes."

SCIENCE PARK'S 1999 CD *Futurama* (Obscure-Disk) was one of the best synth-pop albums to come out of Boston in recent years, in part because it was damn near the only synth-pop album to come out of Boston in recent years. But as the group's leader (and at times its only member), singer/writer/keyboardist Myke Weiskopf is into synth-pop less for the campiness and more for the romance and intrigue. That continues on *Disinformation* (Obscure-Disk) — unlike its demoish predecessor, a fully produced studio disc that brings Weiskopf's melodic gifts to the fore. There's a release party tonight at Club Café in the South End, with a live set at 9 p.m. and free cocktails into the bargain.

Whereas Weiskopf drew from his (then-) messed-up love life on the last album, this one takes on a more exotic, international theme. "I'm concerned with geography, time, and memory, and the way those things interrelate," he notes. "It's all related to the album title: the first few songs deal with espionage, political disinformation, and the last ones are more about emotional treachery. There is a story line of sorts, but it's more a concern with portraits, filmic images." As for his earlier songs, "they tended to be somewhat immature — they don't take a lot of responsibility for the emotions they contain. As you grow older you realize that nothing is that simple, and those kinds of songs are dangerous to yourself."

The lusher sound should liberate Weiskopf from the Magnetic Fields comparisons he's drawn in the past. The more obvious reference points here are the better bits of Gary Numan and OMD. "I don't really listen to much synth-pop," he says. "A lot of what I listen to is 20th-century electronic music, Stockhausen and the like — but of course you can't really hear that in my music, since the emotional component comes in. So perhaps what you're hearing is my emotional response to this very intellectual sound." ■

music

Moving sound

The Gossip's telling tale

BY LOIS MAFFEO The Pacific Northwest isn't particularly known for its swamp-punk scene, but that didn't scare off the Gossip, a trio of Arkansas transplants who now call Olympia, Washington, home. Their dirty garage-style rock is full of raucous Southern accents, from overheated guitars to blues-soaked vocals. It's a sound more likely to bring a beer-drenched juke joint than the cybercafés of Olympia, Portland, and Seattle to mind. But, just as countless small-town underground bands have migrated to more promising locales in search of a scene to call home, the Gossip left Searcy, Arkansas, in 1999 and set their sights on Olympia, the indie-rock capital of Washington, a city that is home to some of the band's favorite labels, like Kill Rock Stars, K, and Chainsaw.

It didn't take long for the Gossip — who come to the Middle East next Thursday, February 22 — to settle in to the Olympia scene. The result, a little over a year later, was *That's Not What I Heard*, the band's debut CD on Kill Rock Stars, which hit stores on January 23. A collection of Cramps-style guitar riffs and stompin' backbeats, the album is largely a showcase for singer Beth Ditto's unbridled vocals and brazen come-ons. Ditto makes no secret of her preference for being "where the girls are": a typical Gossip lyric directs her lover to "swing low, sweet chariot," promising in return "thanks like you never seen." Like a less-damaged Janis Joplin, Ditto isn't afraid to wring her heart out in a song, relying heavily on the uninhibited bray and soft purr of her blues-soaked voice. Live, she'll roam the stage in her stiletto heels and beehive hairdo, shouting, "When I say dance, y'all better dance!" And as soon as guitarist Nathan Howdeshell cuts into his first fat and greasy guitar riff and drummer Kathy Mendonca starts pounding on her snare, it's hard not to comply.

Chatting with the Gossip over late-night fries at King Solomon's Reef in Olympia, I don't hear much about music or the band's swiftly achieved indie fame. The talk is mostly about Searcy and Olympia and the world of difference between the two small towns. By all accounts, it didn't take much persuasion for the musicians to make the move. "It's hot and humid," says Ditto of Searcy, with a noticeable grimace. "And everyone is totally homophobic and even if you're a little freaky you get beat up," adds Howdeshell, whose Coke-bottle glasses and nerdy style definitely hint that he's speaking from experience.

Indie rock turned out to be an ideal escape from small-town ennui. "I found a set of drums in the trash," Mendonca recalls. "There was a hollow bass drum and a broken tom."

"And I played a guitar with only one string," Howdeshell adds. As for Ditto, she came to music a bit later than her bandmates and describes her background as "total choirgirl." "You think I sing good? You oughta see my mom," she says with unrestrained joy. "She always made me sing from my gut. She'd hold my nose so I couldn't sing through it, and poke me in the stomach to show me where to breathe from."

It wasn't until Mendonca took the initiative that the band decided to head west. "I knew about the [Olympia] music scene," Mendonca explains, "so when I found out there was a college there, I decided that's where I wanted to go to school." Howdeshell adds, "The rest of us just followed."

With borrowed equipment and early support from Olympia goth-metal queens the Need, the Gossip began to play house parties and other improvised venues, seducing the town with their dance-crazed shows. Sleater-Kinney soon asked them along for a US tour. "I was just standing in the record shop one day and Carrie [Brownstein] came up and asked me if we wanted to go on tour," recalls Howdeshell. "I finally said, 'Uh . . . yeah.' I couldn't believe it. We used to listen to Sleater-Kinney in our rooms, and suddenly we were going on tour with them."

The Sleater-Kinney tour, last spring, provided the Gossip with national buzz. It also gave new meaning to the name the trio had chosen, for they returned to an Olympia scene that clearly had mixed feelings about the band's mounting success. "There was a lot of badmouthing," Howdeshell says. "We didn't understand that jealous mentality. I thought people would be happy for us."

But over the past several months, things have settled down for the Gossip in Olympia, and they're back in the good graces of the scene. At the CD-release party for *That's Not What I Heard*, which was held at a roller rink, the irrepressible Ditto even coaxed Olympia's punk glitterati into a hokey-pokey circle and a Michael Jackson sing-along.

The band's next mission, as they prepare for a national tour, is to take on their common enemy: people who don't dance. "Come to Mama, people," Ditto says with a smile. Or, as Howdeshell puts it, "If you don't dance, it just ain't gonna be any fun. People always ask me what kind of music we play. Is it punk? Is it soul? We don't even think about it. Just as long as people dance, we're all right." ■

The Gossip perform next Thursday, February 22, downstairs at the Middle East with White Stripes and the Knoxville Girls. Call 864-EAST.

DANCE! *Indie rock was an ideal escape from small-town ennui for the Gossip.*

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music

Session men

Sean Slade and Paul Kolderie play with the best

BY MATT ASHARE Sean Slade and Paul Kolderie haven't quite seen it all yet, but they've been through enough to seem as if they had — and make you believe it — without really having to say anything. It's a trick good producers develop — a survival strategy. An attitude. When a band enters the lab-like atmosphere of a studio with some songs and maybe a vague notion of trying to capture an elusive spark that is, by definition, unquantifiable and unexplainable, it's the producer's job not just to make it happen, but to make the band *believe* that it will happen. That the foreign jungle of knobs, faders, patch chords, and computers that is the modern recording studio is a friendly place. That they've put themselves and their songs in good hands. And, since first working out of Boston's Fort Apache Studios in the late '80s, Slade and Kolderie have been making whatever it is happen for well over a decade now — most notably, perhaps, for the hard-to-handle Courtney Love and Hole on their 1994 landmark *Live Through This* (Geffen), and also for the delicately introspective Radiohead on their debut *Pablo Honey* (Capitol, 1993). The Slade/Kolderie-produced *Life'll Kill Ya* (Artemis), far and away the best Warren Zevon album in what seems like forever, was released in 1999. And the two just put the finishing touches on the new Go-Go's album.

So if Slade and Kolderie haven't quite seen it all yet, you certainly get the sense that there isn't a studio situation they wouldn't be able to handle. Hell, these are the guys who lived through *Live Through This*. That was *before* Courtney was concerned about her public image. And between them, working together and singly, they've left their elusive imprint on dozens of other recordings that helped form the backbone of the indie-, alternative-, or whatever-rock canon — now-seminal recordings by Dinosaur Jr., the Pixies, Throwing Muses, Uncle Tupelo, Morphine, the Mighty Mighty Bosstones . . . the list goes on. So it's one thing for Slade and Kolderie to sing the praises of an artist or a band they've worked with, or even to catch one of them admitting to a certain humble degree of uncertainty about this or that session — but it's quite another to imagine either one of them out of his element in a recording situation.

In that respect, there may be no better way to sum up the duo's experiences playing together again (before helping to found Fort Apache, Slade and Kolderie were in the Boston bands the Sex Execs and Men & Volts in the early '80s) than simply to quote Kolderie relating one of his first experiences at the sessions for the new *Raisins in the Sun* (Rounder). "I remember sitting down on the couch at the studio in Tucson and there's sort of this awkward silence because we're all thinking, 'Okay, are we going to do this now?' " Kolderie recalls when I meet with him and Slade at the Courtside Restaurant in Cambridge. "So I raised my hand and said, 'I've got a little something — G to D-flat, twice, and then go to D for the chorus. And Jules [Shear] is kind of looking at me really intently, so I played it a couple of times, and he's looking at me, and I'm thinking, 'Oh no. He thinks I'm an idiot. This is horrible. I wish I'd never come out here.' But then he kind of comes over and he goes, 'D. D. Now E. Good, now back to G. Okay. Okay, now B-flat again.' In two minutes we had a song."

That was in May of 1999. The seven Raisins (in addition to Slade and Kolderie, the group includes singer/songwriter Shear, veteran bassist Harvey Brooks, legendary producer/keyboardist Jim Dickinson, former Green on Red guitarist Chuck Prophet, and ex-Dylan drummer Winston Watson) had exactly 10 days together in a Tucson studio to write, record, and mix an album. They started, basically, from scratch, unless of course you count their collective decades ("300 years," Kolderie estimates) of recording and performing experience. And that does count for something. "I have to say," says Kolderie, "speaking for myself, I was just kind of hanging on for dear life just trying to keep up. The level of musicianship was just so damn high. Dickinson's spent his whole life making the kind of voodoo records where you don't pay that much attention to the technical side. When he played the piano part on the Stones' 'Wild Horses' — and he'll tell you this story if he gets a chance — the piano was so out of tune that there were only a few notes that he could play. And Chuck's a disciple of that. And Jules is all feel. Still, nobody knew if it was going to work out. I mean, none of us had ever played with Winston before. So there's always that moment where it's like, 'Here comes the downbeat,' and within 10 seconds you just know."

Adds Slade: "Yeah, one of the skills Winston developed working for Dylan is that when you play with Dylan you never know what the next song is going to be or what feel he's going to want. That really benefited this band."

"We were actually freaking out the guys who worked at the studio," Kolderie continues, "because Chuck would take his cue vocal mike and put it down on his acoustic guitar, and he's playing along, and we're playing in this one room with no isolation booths or anything like that. And the engineer would run in and go, 'Let me put a better mike on that,' and we'd go, 'No. Get back in there. It sounds fine.' "

"Paul was playing around with an echo pedal and a tremolo pedal," says Slade, "and the engineer, in typical engineer fashion, said, 'Oh, you know, we can put that on later.' And the whole room went silent. You've never seen seven guys roll their eyes all at once like that."

In spite of the deadline pressure, there's nothing hurried, harried, or even remotely unfinished-sounding about *Raisins in the Sun*. If anything, the album has a remarkably relaxed, rootsy vibe. In addition to all-around confident yet understated playing and a bittersweet, soulful melody, tracks like the wistful and wrenching "You Can Let Go Now" are spiked with satisfying little couplets like "You're spending time neither of us can afford/And you say patience is its own reward" and "It's the thunder that scares you after the lightning burns/I know your world, I know how slow it turns."

"That song's an interesting story," Slade says. "I was just testing out the sound of the B3, and I was playing this little riff that I've always played, when Jules stopped and goes, 'What's that?' And I go, 'Oh, it's just my little lick that I always play.' So he goes, 'Play it, play it.' And he took that and he started to write that tune."

"That was actually the first song we recorded," Kolderie says. "And while they're working it out, I'm in the control room madly trying to finish the drum sounds and get everything set up to record it when everyone starts turning to me and going, 'Record it!' So as the song progresses the drum sounds actually change because I was still finishing the sounds while they were doing that take. I didn't even get to play on it."

As tight as the Raisins are, and as natural as Shear seems to be with a lovelorn lyric, *Raisins in the Sun* has its fair share of unguarded fun moments too — Shear and Prophet trading verses on the Memphis-style R&B number "Candy from a Stranger," for example. "Come on Chuck let's go and take a chance," Shear croons on the first verse, and Prophet answers in kind: "Jules, my man, I say when in doubt/Nothing we can do but to work it out." The album ends with the mainly instrumental "Glenn and Stone," a song that's probably best described as a Southwestern-flavored Motownish surf-rock ditty with an eerie bridge on which, in one of the album's lighter moments, you can hear Shear plead "Take me back to Woodstock" and Prophet shout "Take me back to San Francisco." The lascivious "Stringbeen" and the gritty "Chicken Fried" are rootsy novelty numbers in the best sense of the term.

For Kolderie (who these days has a room of his own at the new Q Division Studios location in Davis Square) and Slade, the 10 days in Tucson were something of a return to the way they worked in the days before most projects with their names on it came with large recording budgets. As Slade tells it, "When we had our first four-track, we'd spend a lot of the off-hours recording on our own. What we'd do is make up a fictional band, and the assignment was to make an album for that fictional band."

"I remember one weekend when we were kind of snowed in and we went to the store and got a bunch of beer and decided to make the beer album," Kolderie recalls. "I believe one of our parameters was all the titles had to be on the label of a bottle of Michelob. So we did 'Cold Filtered,' we did —"

" 'Finest Obtainable —' "

"We did 'Hops and Barley,' I think. We were just in this weird frame of mind, really in the groove, where you don't think about it much. It was like that way in the early days of Fort Apache, too. I remember one day, Slade called me up and goes, 'I can't do this Sebadoh session, can you do it, man?' So I go down there, and I knew Lou [Barlow] from when we'd worked on Bug together for Dinosaur Jr. So he was like, 'Oh, okay, I got Paul instead of Sean.' So I ask him what's up and he goes, 'All right, this song's called 'Give Me Indie Rock.' So I said, 'It's an anthem, huh?' And he goes, 'Yeah.' So we did it in a night, and that was it. You just never knew what it was going to be. Shit was just coming at us. We didn't have time to think about it much. Someone would call up and go, 'I have a band, ah, I want you to do: they're called Uncle Tupelo, they're from Belleville. Can you let them stay on the floor of the studio?' "

"I once recorded a Moonie," Slade suddenly remembers. "A woman came in with her acoustic guitar and she sang songs about the Reverend Moon and how great President Reagan was."

And that's really nothing compared to some of the experiences Slade and Kolderie heard about from their fellow Raisins. "We'd be riding in the van to go out to dinner and 'Summer Breeze' by Seals and Crofts would come on the radio, and Harvey would just cock his head and say, 'I played on this,' " Slade recalls.

"That would happen all the time," says Kolderie. "We'd be driving around listening to oldies radio and someone in the van would be, like, 'I think I might have played on this.' "

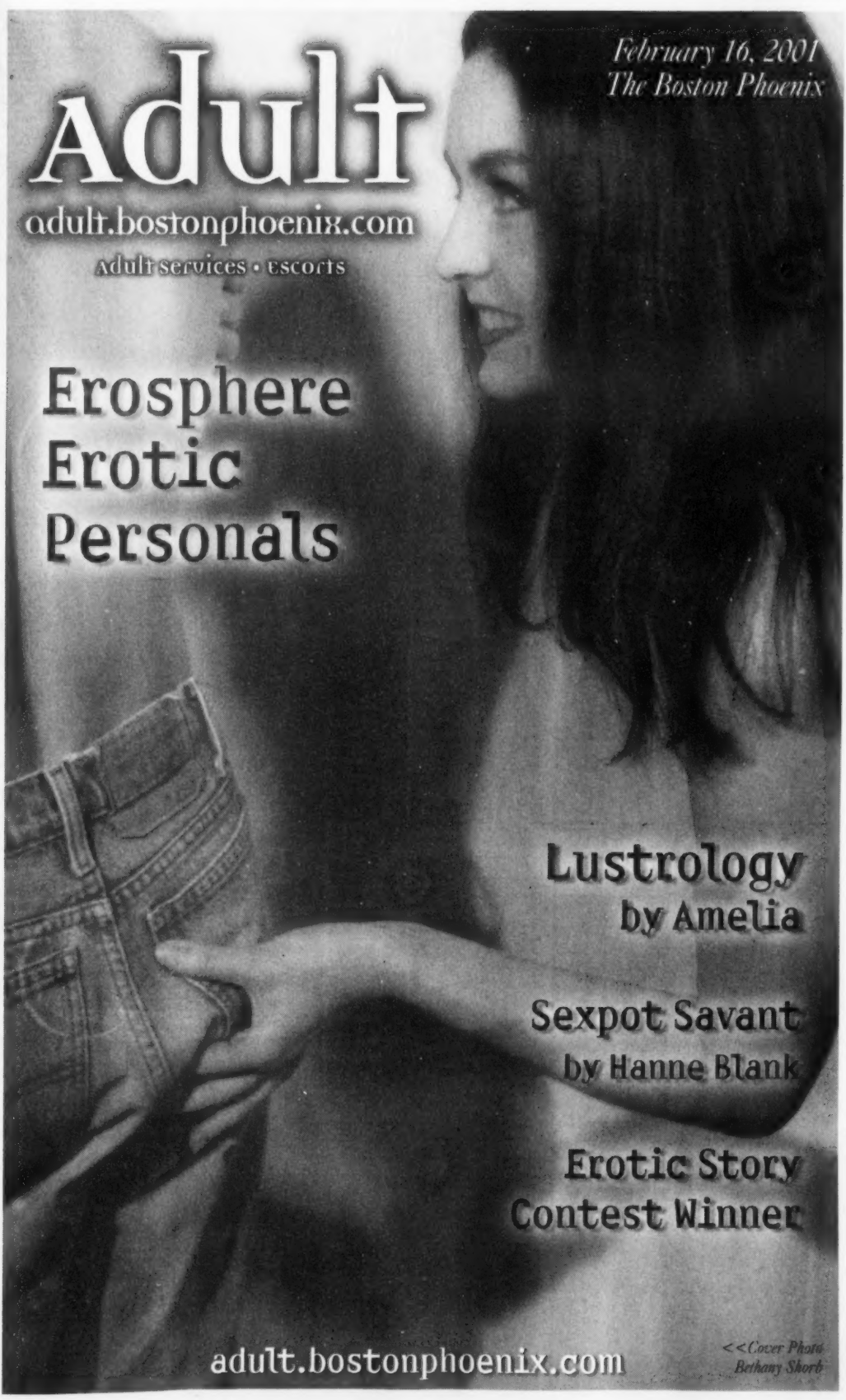
"Harvey actually played on a lot of hits," Slade continues. "He was the first-call session guy for a long time. I think he might have played on 'Hang On Sloopy'?"

"I think he might have," Kolderie says, "But I don't think we should say that, because it might not be true. But Harvey was on stage with Dylan when Dylan went electric the first time. He went on tour with the Doors. I mean, we'd finish a session and Dickinson, who is not impressed by much, would say something like, 'Sure good to play with Harvey . . . pretty wild.' "

With the album finally out, Slade and Kolderie are hoping to share a few more experiences with the Raisins, perhaps in the form of a tour of some sort. Nothing definite has been planned yet, and for now Slade and Kolderie as just glad the Raisins have come as far as they have. "To me," says Slade, "the best achievement is that the album has come out. That was never guaranteed. It [was] entirely possible that it could just be another cassette in our library of recordings." ■

KELLY DAVIDSON

BELIEVERS: *Kolderie and Slade had exactly 10 days together with the other Raisins in a Tucson studio to write, record, and mix an album.*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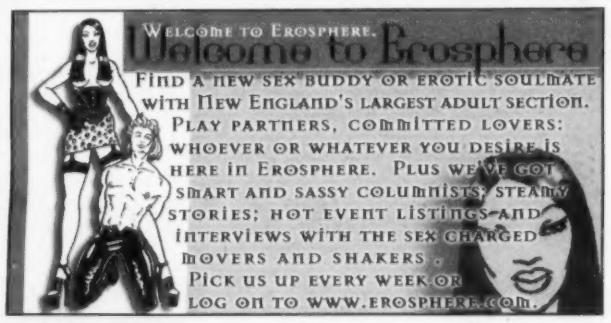
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A VERY HOT THREESOME
5'3", pretty, sexy, clever, intriguing hot WBiF with very handsome, talented hunk seeking hot bif for fabulous threesome, adventurous fun ☎7334 (exp:03/22)

COUNTRY CLUB LIVING
Pamper this educated, elegant 23 year old, short blonde hair, dark green eyes, gorgeous face, majestically tall at 5'8". I axude classic style and grace. I'm attractive too much older gentlemen, 45+, married ok, who enjoy fine dining, theatre and Newbury Street. Serious inquiries only. ☎6495 (exp: 03/08)

PAMPER ME
Sweet, discreet, pretty blonde, full figured, tan body would enjoy a quiet, mutually beneficial encounter with a classy Cape Cod or South Shore mature businessman. ☎6495 (exp: 02/22)

ALLURING ARIES
SWF, 20s, red hair, blue eyes, non-smoker seeks SWM, 25-35 into sex play, body worship and porn.☎7389 (exp:03/22)

ANAIS SEEKS HENRY
Looking for a match to your wit and sexual appetite? Smart, sexy, deviant SWF, 23, seeks SWM, 20-25, for intellectual eroticism. the tongue is a versatile tool and extensive verbal skills are a requirement. ☎6952 (exp: 03/22)

ANIME PRINCESS
looking for: tentacle boy to ravage me against my will. 21/ 6'1" SWF, very anime looking for tall, handsome fem-boy 20-30 for exploring my uncharted galaxy...could you be mine? ☎6826 (exp: 03/08)

BAY WATCH BABE
Attached but not married SWF, 25, 5'1", blonde hair, blue eyes, 100lbs of hard body, very, very sexy, seeking hot muscle boys who will give me the attention I don't get at home. Inexperienced preferred. Let's play. ☎6523 (exp: 03/29)

BIWF, 18, blonde/blue, beautiful, fit, seeks same for kinky fun, dom, sub, oral, etc. You be attractive, fit, into threesomes, submissive, intelligent, and fun to be around. ☎4899 (exp: 03/08)

BICURIOUS PLAYMATE
SWF, 35, brown/brown, curvaceous, seeks F 28-35 height/weight proportioned for casual, open-minded fun, fetishes and spanking. Serious inquiries only. ☎7396 (exp:03/22)

BLACK CAT
Beware when you see me coming down the street. SBF, early 40's, pretty eyes, seeks back alley hi-jinxs and more. Looking for hot, sexy M (race unimportant) for fun and conversation. ☎6531 (exp: 03/29)

AQUA EYED AQUARIUS
Intelligent, humorous DWF, blonde/blue, wise enough to know better, young enough not to care seeks honest, caring gentleman. No headgames. Looking for some fun with possibilities of whatever may come. ☎7400 (exp:03/22)

BAD KITTY
Bad Kitty! SWF mid 20s, full figured, poly, and Bi looking for same. Interested in good books, good music, good movies and good dance partners. Shall we dance? No men please.☎6743 (exp: 03/22)

BLKNBUSTY TENANT SKG UNDERSTANDING LANDLORD
Full-figured, busty black lady needs apartment at a reasonable rent...you're a landlord needing a working tenant and occasional evenings of pleasure you don't get at home. Let's talk. I'll be the best tenant you ever had!☎7277 (exp:03/08)

BLONDE ON THE GO
Too busy for a relationship, but I do have time for some fun. Leggy blonde (formal model), big blue eyes, great smile seeks stable, respectful SWM, 25-40, great shape, nice muscular arms and excellent sense of humor. Not into any heavy kink, just looking for a non-committal fling. ☎6361 (exp: 03/08)

BOUNCY, WARPED
and evil. SWF, 21, black hair, dark eyes, great chest, seeks SWF, 18+, with a busty and curvaceous figure for dom/sub action, spanking, porn and exhibitionism. ☎6928 (exp: 03/29)

CHOCOLATE DIVA
Sexy chocolate diva seeking the finer things in life, wants to be pamper and spoiled by a discreet businessman. Serious inquiries only. ☎6496 (exp: 03/22)

CRAZY
Outgoing, spontaneous, sexy BiF into honesty and communication seeks same for friendship, intimacy and cosmic connection. Daring and logical, wild and down-to-earth seeking other unique creatures. ☎6370 (exp: 03/15)

CURIOUS
Attractive SBF, early 20's, looking for single, attractive female's who are into having fun. ☎6380 (exp: 03/22)

CURIOUS?
Very attractive SWF, late 20's, blonde/blue, 5'7", size 14, busty, feminine, clean, seeking curious or Bi-female of similar description for fun. S. NH, N. MA area. ☎4754 (exp:03/08)

DAMAGED GODDESS
Slightly damaged goddess, dancer's figure, in need of TLC seeks "unmarried", tall, dark & handsome knight, 30-45, for urban adventures, verbal jousting and magic carpet rides. ☎6494 (exp: 03/29)

DANCING BABE
Silly, witty SWF, red hair, green eyes, legs up to here, fabulous dancer seeks SWM, 20-35, with slender to average build, an introvert who wants to get out and have some fun. I'm into clubbing, dressing-up, ManRay. ☎6522 (exp: 03/29)

DAYTIME PLAYMATE WANTED
Hot woman ISO hot Bi or bi-curious female to join in for some real, hot fun. I am attractive, in my early 40's, D/D free, so if your ready to come and play, then call. ☎6371 (exp: 03/15)

DISCIPLINE
Stinging whips, firm hands, teaching, telling, demanding = pretty, strict mistress. Obedience and gratefulness from you is some of what I ask in return. ☎7325 (exp: 3/15)

DOMME GODDESS
Beautiful, busty BBW domina seeks secure, smart, sexy, sensitive slave (30+) to be collared, for training and pampering sessions. I am one to worship. ☎7401 (exp:03/22)

ENTANGLED
Whips, ropes, or perhaps your mind with emotions. So much confusion, so much to learn, sincere, worthy submissives may call. ☎7326 (exp: 3/15)

EROTIC EXEC.
SWF, 29, blond, buxom, tattooed exec. in high pressure, high power job seeking a SW straight male, 18-22, to help me get naughty. Wear my suit and high heels while I watch. Must have a variety of massage skills. ☎6953 (exp: 03/22)

EXECUTIVE ORDER...
Extremely busty, full-figured 30 yo SBF ISO very successful CEO, Banker type businessman for bi-weekly or monthly arrangement. Nothing kinky here. Safe, sane, sensual, clean, discrete fun only. Please respond with work #.☎6740 (exp: 03/29)

EXOTIC FEMALE
Petite, stands 5'5", 115lbs. Mixed Asian/black looking for an exotic girl to enjoy my world. If you're that person, give me a call. ☎6750 (exp: 03/29)

EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES
DWF, late-blooming, cute, slim, well-read, imaginative, red-head, wild woman, young 40s. Seeks humorous, intelligent, lively, open-mined altruistic male, 45-60. ☎7332 (exp:03/22)

FUN, SEXY FEMALE
really needs fun, sexy M who is attractive and has a good body. I'm 20, black hair, dark eyes and great legs looking for someone between, 25-35, trim, who's into role playing, porn, exhibitionist and fetish. ☎5826 (exp: 03/08)

Fun-loving workaholic, soft, sensuous with light auburn hair who only looks like a dom, seeks creative, responsible nature lover who doesn't know the meaning of the word "boredom." No tobacco, whining or religious proselytizing, please. ☎5638 (exp: 03/22)

FUNNY, SEXY
SWF, 39, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks genuine SWM who loves big beautiful women. Looking for either a long-term or casual relationship. Prefer non-smoker and D/D free. Into role playing, kink, dom/sub and oral. What do you like? Tell me. ☎6936 (exp: 03/22)

GLORIOUS
SWF, early 20's, pretty, good shape, experimental seeks SWM, 20-40, slave-type material to teach me how to be a good domina - I'm ready to learn if you've got something to teach. ☎5728 (exp: 03/08)

HELP ME!
Very sexy, pretty, petite MWF, needs help with oral fantasy. Husband will be participating. Be muscular, straight and for real. ☎7029 (exp: 03/29)

HUNGRY KITTY
Hungry Kitty seeks someone to scratch, bite and play with. Enjoys heavy petting. Has strong desires that have to be met twice a day...at least. Definitely a top. ☎6657 (exp: 03/15)

Hot, volumptuous, busty, Italian, dominatrix mistress has what you need for stress relief. ☎4468 (exp: 03/29)

I AM: 26, bisexual, black-haired blue-eyed ex-model; demanding of intellectual passion, insatiable sexual desires and endless curiosity. Not interested in SM, but more than willing to experiment with any and all other sexual cravings. You be: couple/group, bi-sexual women, straight men; attractive and well-endowed, intelligent, fearless, sensually and sexually curious, passionate, D/D free. Wild fantasies, endless evenings/days filled with naked pleasure, open and straight-forward communication, mutual respect and admiration for all things beautiful-have these, and we'll get along just fine. ☎7333 (exp:03/22)

JUST FUN
SWF, 21, seeks fun, outgoing M, 20-35, who likes to go out clubbing and has a good sense of humor. Must be short, athletic and well-built everywhere. Open to long-term relationship. N/S, N/D, social drinker OK. ☎6529 (exp: 03/29)

LADIES' TEA
Ladies looking for an upscale, sensuous environment to meet and interact with couples and other singles are invited to join The Black Key Club. ☎7504 (exp:06/07)

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What do you celebrate in your relationships? Diversity? Equality? How about...

aries: Equivalency. You're not looking for Einstein, but you'd be thrilled if your lover could just manage a high school diploma.

taurus: Inversity. You only like the sex if you get to be the one over your lover. (One over. Get it?)

gemini: Equanimity. You're highly entertaining but you require a lot of patience... or a lover who's not adverse to anti-anxiety medication.

cancer: Perversity. But that kind of goes without saying if you're reading this column, doesn't it?

leo: Ubiquity. If you can't find the partner of all your dreams, you'll make due with a collection of people who can each satisfy one of your dreams.

virgo: Conversity. Forget the PVC boots and the **** me pumps; you like a pair of good old fashioned red high-tops on your lover.

libra: Dichotomy. To properly accommodate your moods, you should probably date a Gemini.

scorpio: Convexity. If you're putting on weight you feel a lot better if your lover is too.

sagittarius: University. Aren't those freshman co-eds just what the doctor ordered?!

capricorn: Aversity. It's winter, you're cranky, you're not dating anyone and you'd just as soon everyone would leave you the **** alone.

aquarius: Motor City. With John Sinclair floating around town and even NPR covering 'em on the radio, you're having your own little MC5 revival.

pisces: Concavity. Your new lover's bed is not wreaking havoc on your back, but you're just glad to be occupying any bed other than your own.

Veracity. You're hoping for some in this column but you've been sadly disappointed.

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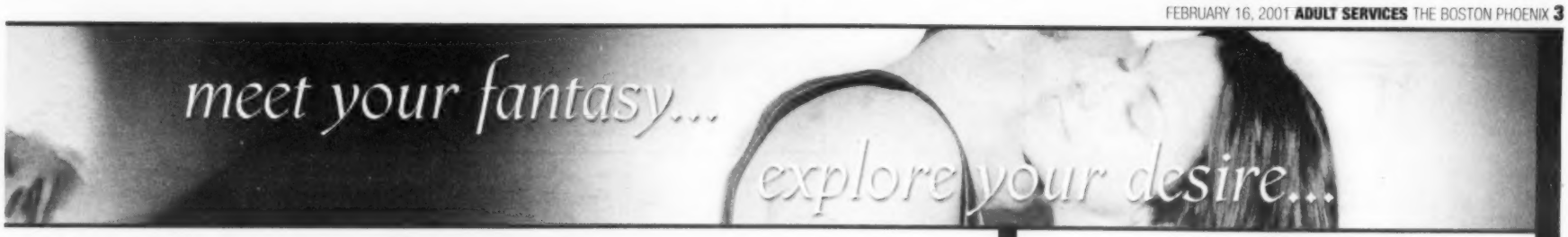

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LEATHER LOVER
SF seeks "top" to play with. I love to wear nothing...unless it's leather. I will beg if you ask me to and come on command. ☎6658 (exp: 03/15)

LET'S DRESS
Panty heaven. Persuasive guidance and discipline by velvet-gloved, iron-fisted mistress. Bad boys, too. Be taken . ☎7279 (exp: 03/08)

MAID SERVICE
I am a lifestyle Dominant Female offering one of my personal male slaves to an aggressive Woman for domestic servitude. Duties include cleaning, scrubbing floors, bathroom cleaning and other household chores. Prefer a Dominant Woman who understands Her true position of authority. ☎6907 (exp: 03/15)

MISTRESS DEMENTIA
Tattoo-ed, full figured, beautiful eyes, seeks M or F, 18+, submissives (experienced or willing to be trained). I'm firm but open to suggestions. Exhibitionistic tendencies a plus. Be smart, creative, clean, sincere and D/D free. ☎4340(exp:03/08)

NANCY LOOKING FOR HER SID
23/SWF, glam punk looking for her SID age 22-32 SWM. Could you be him? ☎6827 (exp: 03/08)

NOT SO SWEET
Single, gorgeous brunette with great figure and face seeks sweet by day and naughty by night, tall SWM, 25-40, for sincere, erotic interludes. Must be genuine, real and willing to please me: I'm worth it. ☎6527 (exp: 03/29)

PLEASURE ME
Voluptuous SWF with a high libido who is well-endowed and affectionate desires a virile, well-endowed, single, N/S gentleman, 45-50, for a relationship in Central Mass. D/D free. ☎6359 (exp: 03/08)

Pretty female seeks mature, open male 35+, financially secure and capable of pampering, who seeks a companion (plus) for a mutually beneficial relationship. ☎7327 (exp:03/15)

RED HEAD
Ok, here is the deal. I am tall (really! and taller in heels); smart (really! PhD in progress); red (really! with freckles to prove it); interesting (really! oh, there simply isn't space); and ALONE! (really! what's up with that?) You! Yes, you there - the 6'2" one with the plane ticket (to an erotic adventure) in your hand...what are you waiting for? Just entertain me - I need to be amused. Seeking SWM, 20-45, who can take flight. ☎6501 (exp: 03/08)

SCORPIO WITH ATTITUDE
Hot, open and honest SWF, 40, blue eyes, dirty blonde hair, seeks D/D free SM or F 30-49 interested in SM/BD, body worship and exhibitionism for casual relationship. ☎7386 (exp:03/22)

SEEKING BANK EXECUTIVE
or loan officer to exchange service with 48DD, large, lovely black lady. If you're a Bank Executive by day but at night aren't getting what you want/need, I know how we can help each other out. ☎7278 (exp: 03/08)

SEEKING...
SWF, 33, curvy-figured (not fat) big, green eyes, light brown hair seeks smart, sane and very sexy SWM, (big guys a plus) with dominant streak (not a bully) for light erotic play. Must have good sense of humor and not take self too seriously. Not looking for ongoing relationship. ☎5985 (exp: 03/08)

SEXY BLONDE TV
I like sexy clothes, sexy people, and sexy times. I am in search of a male or female or male/female, to treat me the way a queen should be worshipped. ☎7404 (exp:03/22)

SEXY SAGITTARIUS
With great hands. SWF, 28, blonde/emerald green eyes who's smart, quirky, and playful seeks SWF, 22-35, slender, 5'5+ for spankings; long-term or casual relationship. ☎7392 (exp:03/22)

SEXY SCORPIO
SWF, 23, green eyes, seductive, dominant and aggressive with a fantastic butt seeks a submissive and perverted SWM, 20-35, 6'+. Leo's a plus for erotic dancing in the clubs and in the dark. ☎6933 (exp: 03/22)

SF, 18, looking for someone to explore sense and sexuality, tantra and for friendship...Someone to share ideas, caring and reverence for physical world. ☎5896 (exp: 03/15)

STYGIAN FAERIE
22 year old Diminutive & buxom satyr seeks gentle shadow for frequent torment. Gender and age not important, but must have feminine attributes and a young spirit. Adores corsets, velvet, leather, & vinyl. Play with me, cause my wings to twitch! ☎6908 (exp: 03/15)

SUBMISSIVE HOUSE-WIFE SEEKS MASTER
Married 24 yo fem seeks very dom master for secret spanking and bondage play. I want you to make me cry. Must be very discreet. My husband just isn't interested. I am very sexy and sexual and I know how to please you. Will travel. Please call. ☎6831 (exp: 03/08)

SUBMISSIVE TRAVELER
Are you a frequent flyer? Pretty, shapely domina seeks you. If you're a true submissive or have the curiosity of one, let's help each other while exploring the many levels of domination. ☎5633 (exp: 03/22)

SUBMIT!
to the sting of my whip, the smell of my leather dress, the sight of my beautiful feet in heels and my commanding voice and beauty. SWF, 30, seeks submissive males yearning for the opportunity to serve a demanding, perverse mistress ☎6727 (exp: 01/11)

SULTRY
and sensual brunette, 5'4", brown eyes, curvy, scorpio, loves to dress up sexy, seeks big, bad boy to have fun with. Looking for non-committal relationship with uninhibited guy (25-45) with large build, sensitive hands and great sexual imagination. You don't have to be handsome or smart in a conventional way, just be excited and passionate about life and lust.☎7280 (exp:03/08)

SULTRY
Passionate and dominating describes me; what about you? SWF, 26, fiery red hair, bedroom blue eyes seeks sincere, lean SWM or F, 25-40, for role playing, swapping, spanking. Looking for a casual relationship. ☎6930 (exp: 03/22)

SWF, 21, red hair, green eyes, very slender, who is sexy, curious and lots of fun is looking for a SM, 21-30, who is curious, hot and willing to explore an erotic relationship. ☎6932 (exp: 03/22)

SWF, 23, auburn hair, blue eyes, with mischievous tongue seeks SF or couple, 20-30, average build who are adventurous and sexy for SM/BD, exhibition, oral and swapping. ☎6934 (exp: 03/22)

SWF, 23, dark hair, hazel/green eyes, a little shy, seeks compassionate, honest and smart WM, 21-30, with warped sense of humor for role playing, BDSM, spanking. Other interests include writing, dancing at Hell. Please be a non-smoker, D/D free, social drinker, safe and sane. ☎5837 (exp: 03/08)

SWF, 24, strawberry blonde, brown eyes, killer smile, creative, athletic, kinky and outgoing, seeks F, 20-30, for playful, passionate, easygoing relationship. ☎5840 (exp: 03/08)

TANTRA
Mistress Tantrika is interviewing supplicants. Well versed in energy in the settled arts, she will dominant you; mind, body and spirit. ☎6372 (exp: 03/15)

TASTE OF CHINA
Slim, attractive, SAF, seeks intelligent, confident and dominate M 25-35 height/weight proportioned, d/d free for S&M play. Discretion a must. ☎7398 (exp:03/22)

THREESOME FOR TRADE
5'3", 42, pretty, sexy, alluring, hot bi gal with handsome hunk in search of trading fabulous threesome with us for threesome with you and your guy ☎6943 (exp: 03/22)

WICKED SENSUAL
Love wanted. SWF, 27, brown hair/eyes scorpio. I'm a total package: wanton, creative and romantic, I'm looking for a slender SF, 21-35, who is intelligent and creative and into SM/BD, fetish and kinky play. I can be seduced with raspberries; what about you? ☎7388 (exp:03/22)

WINTER IN NEW ENGLAND
Woman seeking another woman between the ages of 45-55 to have fun with. Likes romance, music, movies, candlelight dinners, and who likes to laugh a lot.☎7321 (exp: 3/15)

2 SEXY
Let us show you things you've only dreamed of. We are two gorgeous ladies looking to have fun and share erotic times. ☎ 4077 (exp: 4/11)

DAYTIME DELIGHTS
Our husbands are at work and we're ready to play. Discreet businessmen needed to make our day. ☎ 5002 (exp: 4/11)

EROTIC DANCER
Sexy, sensuous, gorgeous female looking for males, females or couples interested in a mind-blowing show. Please be discreet ☎ 1522 (exp: 4/11)

FLING IN THE NEW YEAR
Discerning female seeking to play hard with necessarily discrete delightfully deviant male. Lets step under the velvet rope. ☎ 6975 (exp: 2/14)

I am a pretty TV looking for a pretty girlfriend to dominate me and who would like to have someone to punish when she wants to. ☎ 7227 (exp: 2/21)

ICE GODDESS
Beautiful, black ice goddess, do you have what it takes to make me melt? ☎ 5003 (exp: 4/11)

LONELY HOUSEWIFE
MF, 30, busty, tan with a great smile and open mind. Looking to fill void left by travelling husband. Searching for guys who will appreciate me after discreet rendezvous. Call me, you'll feel like a king. ☎ 2386 (exp: 4/11)

LOOKING
I am looking for you, sugar daddy, to show you amazing, seduction secrets, the abilty to make you feel like royalty. I like being spoiled and am not ashamed to admit it. ☎ 4352 (exp: 4/11)

NAUGHGTY+NICE
Attractive sexy senous lady looking for real man/ Who knows what a women needs+wants I am blonde/green in 40's and sane R.I. area UB2. ☎ 6973 (exp: 2/14)

OUR SECRET
Hi gentlemen. I have a problem that you might be able to help me with. I am a happily married young housewife whose husband is a much older executive of a major company. He travels 90% of the time. What's a girl to do? If you're a discreet man who knows how to keep a secret then you must call me. ☎ 1422 (exp: 4/11)

Continued on page 4

You Weren't the only one at the Fetish Fair Fleamarket getting busy....
Check out all the new Erosphere personals!!!
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Sexpot Savant

by Hanne Blank

What's up your butt? No, really, I mean it. Do you know? I get questions all the time from people who are curious about anal pleasure and stimulation, but who are chock full of misinformation about it. That's not surprising, given how taboo it still is to talk about rear ends in any context more titillating than Preparation H ads. Fortunately, just like Mama used to say, ignorance can be cured. Here are some common myths about the 'back forty' — and the truths you need to know to put you on the right track.

Tuchas Myth #1: Anal sex hurts!
Tuchas Truth: Anal penetration can hurt if the muscles of the anus and rectum are not sufficiently relaxed or if penetration is done too quickly or with an object too big for comfort. But remember: there's more to life than just penetration, and second, that if penetration is your goal, some of those other things — stimulation with fingers, a vibrator, whatever — are likely to both and arouse and relax. Don't forget the lube!

Tuchas Myth #2: It's dirty and unsanitary.
Tuchas Truth: C'mon, you kiss him, don't you? Ever see how many bacteria are in the average mouth? Honest, if there's been a shower or bath in the recent past, and no one feels Nature calling, you're probably fine. Shower beforehand if you like — showers a deux are great foreplay! In any case, if you're using latex gloves and condoms, which I know you are because my readers aren't irresponsible, you can always whip off the old glove or condom and slip on a new one any time.

Tuchas Myth #3: Vaseline and Crisco are the best lubes for anal play.
Tuchas Truth: Only if you're deep-frying that thing, sugar. Oil eats latex, first of all. That's bad. Secondly, oil's hard to wash off or out, and can trap bacteria, possibly causing irritations or infections. Third, it'll stain your sheets worse than you ever imagined. A good water-based lubricant will do none of those things. I wholeheartedly endorse Maximus lube, but other people like various other thicker lubes, like Probe. Buy trial sizes and experiment.

Tuchas Myth #4: Men who let their butts be stimulated are gay.
Tuchas Truth: Anal play is about as orientation-specific as kissing. It's an activity which can take place between two people of any gender(s), because everyone of every gender has a butt. How an activity can be "gay" when every person on the planet is capable of doing it is beyond me. If there's any doubt left in your mind that one can be heterosexual and male and still like anal play, go rent *Bend over Boyfriend* (SIR Video) I or II.
As they say, free your mind and your ass will follow!

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Erotic Story

Untitled

By B.C.

I was standing at the laundromat watching my wash spin. I thought to myself: another boring Saturday night alone with only my dirty clothes to keep me company. That's when she walked in. I didn't have my eyes on the door, they were hypnotized by the spinning dryer. I smelled her first. Her fragrance filled the stale soapy air with a sweet sexy essence. I looked over my right shoulder to find her having trouble carrying in her basket. She had blonde hair with soft waves. Her breasts were perfect with the tips of the curls just barely touching them. I pictured my tongue gliding over her luscious nipples. Her waist size had to be a size six. I'm a six and she looked to be the same. She had a small, tight ass with long legs. I wanted her to wrap her legs around me and rub her breasts against mine. I had never fantasized about another women, before but my sex life had become as boring as the clothes in the dryer. She was wearing a tight white t-shirt and faded cut-off shorts. On her feet, she wore open-toed sandals that showed her perfectly painted red toenails.

I immediately jumped to my feet to get the door for her. In an innocent voice she said, "Thank you." I asked her if she wanted any help loading her clothes into the machine. To my delight she replied, "Yes, please." We were sorting clothes when I noticed a grease mark from the door on her t-shirt. I suggested she take it off and throw it in the wash. Without hesitation, she took of her shirt. I told her it might be a good idea if I helped her off with her bra and put that in too. I became soaking wet when she said I could. Not only did I help her with her bra, but those faded cut- offs went into the wash as well! I couldn't wait to touch her beautiful body. Where do I start? What do I do first? That's when she took her left hand and placed it on her breast and my right hand between her legs. Oh god! It was moist, warm and soft. I couldn't stop myself. I sucked her breasts and I sucked all along her luscious body. The next thing I knew, my clothes were off and tumbling in the wash as well. It was heaven the way her body felt pressed against mine. I was in pure ecstasy. I came at the same moment the buzzer went off. She kissed me as she got up. She went to my dryer and put on some of my clothes. She took her clothes out of the wash and started to leave. I asked if I would ever see her again. In her sweet innocent voice she replied, "I have a dryer at home, but my washer is broken. I don't have the money to get it fixed. I'll be here every Saturday night." She winked and walked out the door.

The winner of the Erosphere Short Story Contest will receive an erotic book and sexy CD. Look for the next winner in an upcoming issue.

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800-314-7958 VISA MasterCard AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER call costs $2.69 per minute

Women Wanting. . . . *Continued from page 3*

LOOKING FOR EDEN
So am I. Sophisticated seductress loves to dress like a social like & party and dress like a courtesan for play in the boudoir. I am 40 tall, slender and well toned. With long auburn hair and green eyes. ☎ 7225 (exp: 2/21)

MARRIED
Yes and I like the excitment I get from knowing I may get caught being naughty. Can you be discreet, can you get away for a little rendezvous? I'm waiting. ☎ 4353 (exp: 4/11)

RUSSIAN DELIGHT
I am sassy, classy and even a tad bit trashy. I know what you like, I know what you need; your wildest desires, I'll truly feed. ☎ 5000 (exp: 4/11)

SCHOOLTEACHER
Sexy schoolteacher has been a naughty girl and needs dominant, discreet businessman to put her back in line. ☎ 4998 (exp: 4/11)

SOUTHWESTERN FITNESS MODEL
Beautiful, former model, new to area. Is looking for an upscale gentleman who can appreciate the finer things in life. You won't be disappointed. ☎ 5759 (exp: 03/14/01)

SPRING BREAK
WOW! Unbelievably fulfilling stimulation and now I want to share it with you. Want to hear about it, call me. ☎ 4350 (exp: 03/14/01)

STATUESQUE NUBIAN QUEEN
An invitation to my insight, they say the blacker the berry, the sweeter the juice, however, after you've tasted a mere drop of my intellect, I swear you will never wish to turn me loose. ☎ 4999 (exp: 4/11)

TASHARA
Baby got back and a whole lot more. I'm one hot momma for you to adore. ☎ 5004 (exp: 4/11)

BLACK KEY CLUB
Couples looking for an upscale environment to meet and interact with other couples are invited to join The Black Key Club. Unlock the door to a new experience. ☎7502 (exp:06/07)

BLONDE GODDESS
Beautiful blonde with great body, likes high heels and loves to dance. Sophisticated, very classy and sexy. Join me and my husband for a night on the town. Very selective. Must have above average looks. Will respond to all. ☎6956 (exp: 02/22)

Couple, let me watch your lovemaking. Intensify life's most pleasurable experience! Intriguing, also, to watch fun, fantasy, "special" lovemaking. Perfect gentleman, 40's. ☎1820 (exp: 04/05)

COUPLES
And single women: Thought about swinging but not sure? Saturday evening dances and house parties. Comfortable, relaxed, lounge/dance atmoshpere. No pressure- just terrific people. ☎5100 (exp:09/06)

DO MY WIFE
Straight married couple: white male and pretty, petite latin female, looking for a straight white male, 18-40, for a night of fun-loving pleasure.☎7344 (exp: 03/15)

FITCHBURG AREA
Married white couple, early 50's, She's chubby, 5'2", ample bossom straight. He's 5'9", 210lbs. bi, in search of straight males or females, or couples. Race not an issue. Can entertain or travel. ☎7395(exp:03/22)

FUN COUPLE
In search of BIF. Attractive mid 20's white couple seeking adventurous, bisexual F(18-45) into role playing, fetish, oral, swapping and kinkiness. Join us for an exotic and erotic tryst.☎ 7397 (exp:03/22)

Hot couple, fit and in fashion seeks in-shape female 18-35, slender (open to novices, but experience is always welcome) for erotic threesome. Not necessarily into kink, we're looking for mild to wild play partner. Please be sincere: we are. ☎7390 (exp:03/22)

LIKES IT HARD
Prof WC, she's 27, sub, he's 29, dom. Seek similar couples 2 watch and be watched. She loves to watch F take it hard from M. No whips or chains, just raw and nasty. Anal, hair pulling, forced oral, and big loads. Under 35 only. ☎7337 (exp:03/08)

Mature Bi Female to join my wife and myself in our adventures. Me: 6'1", 165lbs, 50's. She: petite, 38. D&D free, very discreet. Race not a factor.☎6728 (exp:02/22)

PLAY WITH US
College age BWF and her SHM in search of a pretty boy to come play with us. Intelligent, attractive, submissive man wanted. We're both students willing to try anything. I'm tall (5-11), curvy domme in search of another toy to play with. Willingness to be in personal videos a plus. Bondage, light pain, and a dabble of forced fem. Sound good? ☎ 7335 (exp:03/22)

Very attractive white couple looking for another couple (late 20's, early 40's) for adult fun. Must be open-minded for first time swinging. ☎7387 (exp:03/22)

WC, Bisexual, very clean, no drugs, would like to meet couple, same. He & she both trim and attractive. Let's get together. Race or ethnic background not important. Couples, only please. ☎5304 (exp:02/22)

Aged to perfection. Sexy lady, many talents, needs to be serviced in many ways. Husband would like to watch only, with possible video. Safe sane discreet couple. ☎ 7226 (exp: 2/21)

DOM COUPLES+ SINGLES
Submissive white male looking for dominate couples+singles to train me to be their slave, to tease me spank+tie me up light pain.Have truck will travel. ☎ 6339 (exp: 02/21/01)

COUPLES PARTIES
House parties held weekends. Relaxed, non-pushy fun and entertaining. New, curious couples and single females welcome. Meet new, swinging friends this weekend. Call for information. ☎ 9313 (exp: 03/07/01)

MWM, looking to share in some erotic times with very clean, straight, discrete, disease free, no smokers.I am handsome, 5'11, 180lbs executive type. Very normal and gentle, if need be. ☎ 6963 (exp: 3/7)

*** A GENEROUS MAN
Very successful, kind, sane, good looking, upscale executive M, 49, seeks mutually beneficial relationship with F 35-50. Must be classy, intelligent, outgoing single mom, grad student or divorcee. Boston area, south of Boston preferred for LTR. No escorts! ☎ 7286 (exp:03/29)

ASIAN?
Friendly, respectful and fit MWM seeks Asian woman with Boston-area home, for relaxing massages. ☎7323 (exp:03/15)

Attention Ladies
Good looking, trim, gentle and caring man aged 49 w/dark brown hair is seeking discreet sexual relationship. Single, recently divorced or married ok, age or race unimportant but please no obese. ☎6490 (exp:4/01)

ATTN: LITTLE WOMEN
SWM, 30, trim, clean, extremely sensuous and passionate seeks very sexy, petite SWF for down-and-dirty, uninhibited erotic encounters. Must enjoy receiving oral.☎7285 (exp: 03/08)

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Erosphere
Phoenix Adult Personals

Bi- white male 45, 5'6', 145lbs good build seeking Gay or Bi-white male, 20-45 with similar description, for fun & friendship. PLease honest discription & discetion a must.☎ 7339 (exp:03/08)

BUM LOVER
SWM, 39, Ivy educated, handsome, gentle, clean, seeks women, 18-40, attractive and trim, who enjoys or would like to explore anal pleasure. ☎2345(exp:04/19)

Devotion
Are you ready? Fabulous, loving, intense, faithful, highly intelligent, fit, attractive, dominant, professional white male, 49 w/masterful skill in D/s lifestyle seeks submissive partner w/desire to adore her worthy master. ☎7343 exp:(3/08)

DOMINANT
Intelligent, intuitive, forthright, down to earth though quite dominant male seeking female, submissive and attractive, bisexual a plus. ☎7509 (exp:03/29)

DOMINANT MALE
Dominant SWM desires a submissive, SF, 25+. I'm safe, smart, attractive and fun. You are a gentle, submissive woman who likes to be told what to do. Limits respected. HIV negative.☎7331 (exp:03/22)

Extremely submissive white male 35, seeks extremely domineering female 18-34 for sadomasochistic encounters.☎7505 (exp: 03/08)

Financially secure DWM, 50, seeks WF, 30+, for a mutually beneficial long term situation. Good looking and kind. You be over 5'5" desirable, energetic and fun. Discretion a must. ☎7032 (exp: 03/08)

FIRM HAND
Well-traveled, ivy-educated WM, 45, seeks mature, imaginative, mischievous lady with a penchant for erotic spankings. I fancy humor, singularity, and the edges of life. You should be proper and sane but spirited and romantic, with a willingness to share your secrets and bare your proud, pretty bottom to a trusting experienced hand. ☎7507(exp:03/22)

GOT LEATHER?
SWM switch, likes playing with leather and rope and being played with by YOU. Searching for sensuous B&D experience with female leather lovin', switchable soulmate. If you like being both tormentor and tormented, let's talk. I'm 36, in good shape and look great in black leather! ☎7402 (exp:03/22)

JABBERWOCKY
Serious artist/scientist seeks female college seniors or recent graduates for travel in Europe. Elegant and sensuous adventure in fine restaurants, museums, and boudoirs. ☎6834 (exp: 03/08)

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN
Well-endowed, very thick, married white male, orally talented. Seeks female of any age or race for mutually satisfying erotic encounters. Anything goes from straight to kinky. Oral, anal, spanking, bondage, golden showers and more. Dirty mind a plus. D&D free, extreme discretion assured. ☎6484 (exp: 04/12)

MUTUAL SATISFACTION
Tall and slender SWM, 44, in good shape, seeking single female, 30-50, for discreet, non-commital fling. Not into any heavy kink, love oral. Please be non-smoker, D/D free, social drinker OK, race unimportant.☎7506 (exp:03/29)

MY GIRLFRIEND
and I are looking for a bi female to share. We are a good looking couple in our mid-30's. Lets meet or talk.☎7338 (exp 03/08)

ORAL PLEASURES
MWM, 40, athletic build, health care professional, North Shore area, seeking orally deprived woman to meet for discreet encounters. Age and size not a problem.☎7511 (exp:03/15)

SEEKING A TEACHER
Shy, inexperienced SWM, 22, seeking attractive, fit, clean woman, 22-40 to teach me what I've been missing. ☎7270 (exp: 03/08)

SHOW-OFF
Dominant SWM 52, seeks intelligent submissive female, in shape, who likes to be told what to do, for intellectual S/M. Good looking 5'9" fit, slim, youthful, psychological, creative, educated, many interests. Nothing too scary or painful. ☎7341 (exp:03/15)

SUB FEMALE WANTED
6'2, brown hair, hazel eyed master, seeks submissive female for bondage, S&M, suspension and discipline.☎6913(exp:03/08)

SWM, 28, 155lbs, James Dean classic American looks, ISO women, 30-55, needing young hotty nylon fetishist to slave for you orally and receive. Very open to older sexy/classy women. I'd look up to you if you let me go down on you. Return all calls. Married welcome.☎ 7508 (exp: 03/15)

SWM, 30, 5'10", brown/hazel, very attractive is looking for attractive BiF or SF 18-33 to share very erotic pleasures with race unimportant, but must be sexual and appealing.☎ 7340 (exp:03/08)

SWM, 32, attractive, 6ft, brown/blue seeks older, single female, 38-48, for hot, erotic rendezvous. Must be pretty, fit, and sensual.☎7276 (exp: 3/15)

Treat Yourself
Handsome SWM, 40, 6'2 200lbs, physically fit looking for woman 25-45 for discreet, extra curricular activities. Lets have some fun on your time. ☎7342 (exp:3/08)

WOMEN 18 TO 45!
SWM, 40, 5'11", 175lbs, blk/brn seeks cunnilingus partner. Fetish satisfaction, reciprocation unnecessary. This is a genuine ad. Serious replies only! ☎7272 (exp: 03/22)

BARBIE DOLL
WM, thin, gentle, affectionate, enjoys music Victoria Secret, Gia darling, Miko's, silk, modeling and girl talk.Looking for friends in R.I. area. ☎ 6974 (exp: 02/28)

CUM HERE
SWM, seeks clean, healthy young men who enjoy receiving great oral. No reciprocation necessary. I have my own place in R.I. very discrete. Very private. ☎ 7016 (exp: 2/21)

DOM W/M 36, BR/BR, 5'8, 185, seeking SUB Females and DOM/SUB couples into bondage, teasing, toys, spanking ect. Limits respected cleanliness and discretion assured. LTR for right female. ☎ 7223 (exp: 2/28)

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Outside Greater Boston call: **900-370-2105**

Dom white male seeking submissive female for mind and body control novices and full figured of all ages welcome. ☎ 7449 (exp: 3/7)

GET LUCKY

WM, middle aged gentleman seeks WF unattached attractive+sexy with a good driving record to drive to Foxwoods casino. Fair wages. ☎ 7217 (exp: 2/28)

Goodlooking GWM decent built, 47, 5'10", 180, outdoors type seeks similar furry men for friendship and occasional discrete encounters. ☎ 7222 (exp: 2/14)

GWM, 40, in shape, good looking, squeaky clean, Orally gifted. Seeking hung, thick, top oriented, straight male 18-45 for discreet adventure. My place. Videos. ☎ 7220 (exp: 02/14)

Handsome SWM, 28, seeks attractive SWF, 22-35 for erotic play and possible LTR. ☎ 7219 (exp: 2/14)

MWM 38, fit, healthy, well endowed seeks oral servicing from G/M or M/F couple. Travel or entertain.Will answer all. Serious replies only. ☎ 7017 (exp: 2/21)

MWM, 40 years old light brown hair blue eyes 6 ft, 205 lbs. Interested in MWF for extra fun, friendship to fill void of being lonely. ☎ 7216 (exp: 2/28)

MWM, 43, professional, respectful, unfulfilled would like to meet a special woman to satisfy his needs.Breasts really turn me on. R.I. area. ☎ 7229 (exp: 2/21)

PANTY HOSE FETISH

Seeking 1 special female that wants to share my fetish with me. I LOVE TO EAT PUSSY THRU PANTY HOSE...I'm well built in all ways. ☎ 7228 (exp: 2/21)

R U ANAL?

Clean-cut, professional BM 49, seeks shapely women, 18-45 to enjoy anal congress. Providence area. ☎ 7013 (exp: 3/14)

SUBMISSIVE

SWM, age 51 looks 40 light brown hair blue eyes seeks aggressive single white woman to spank me, tie me, smack me, choke me, dress me in panties for friendship or more. ☎ 7015 (exp: 2/28/01)

SWM, 45, fit, slim, handsome, healthy, discreet seeks married or single couple, age/race open. Looking for friendship and pleasure. First time ad, will answer all. ☎ 2029 (exp: 2/14)

THE RIGHT ONE

Seeking attractive sexy female for private, discrete, rendezvous or casual light erotic nights.Home cooked meals by the fire light. UB 22-40, safe and sane.If this ad sounds good to you and your the right one call. ☎ 7221 (exp: 2/14)

WILL PAMPER PLAYMATE

Attractive successful 45 SBM, 5'8", 160, seeks slim round bottomed 21+ female playmate for pleasurable rendezvous, travel and entertaining. Must be adventurous, open and articulate. Will be generous, fun and respectful. ☎ 7224 (exp: 2/14)

WM, very attractive, good body, 5'10", 175 lbs Brown/Green, gentleman, D/D free safe/sane seeking attractive female, 20-35 for erotic times will answer all. ☎ 7450 (exp: 2/28)

50+ Very discreet intros for the over 50. Call with "handle" (cute name), passwords, means of contact, desires/interests. Seacoast-Newburyport to Portland ☎7510 (exp:03/15)

BiWM Fat Boy 5'10", 250, versatile to bottom seeks sizzling exploits with B/A/H men. I enjoy making out, oral, anal. Discreet, casual, safe, U2. ☎6944 (exp: 03/15)

BiWM, 48, clean, discreet seeks similar BiWM for regular meetings for mutual JO at your place. Prefer Boston suburban location ☎7274 (exp: 03/08)

BiWM, Clean, pleasant, 48yrs. Looking for couple or BiM for mutual pleasure. South Shore. ☎7336 (exp:03/08)

FEEL APPRECIATED

Are you in good shape, good looking, work out regularly, but don't feel appreciated? Straight or curious and needing some attention? I'm good looking, fit, bi, totally discrete WM, 30. Seeking primarily straight, clean-cut WM for massage, show off, jo, jock worship, anything safe.☎6734 (exp:03/08)

FETISH NIGHT

Interested in role-playing, cross-dressing, hair, feet, light spankings or domination in a dungeon setting? Then you are invited to join the Black Key Club. Unlock the door to a new experience. ☎7503 (exp:06/07)

GWM, 45, seeks clean, hung men, straight/gay/Bi, that enjoy receiving great oral. No reciprocation necessary. I have place. Mass South Shore area. ☎1090(exp:03/08)

INTELLECT + PASSION

Fit, funny, fortysomething father foraging for flexible, felicitous female friend. Ardent, articulate, attached academic seeks sincere, sensuous, selective Siren for intermittent intellectual interactions, intimate interludes, transcontinental/transoceanic travel, and lifelong friendship. My extraordinary wife accepts such libidinous liaisons because she understands that keeping my passionate and romantic nature alive benefits her more than anyone else. ❑ ☎6833 (exp: 03/08)

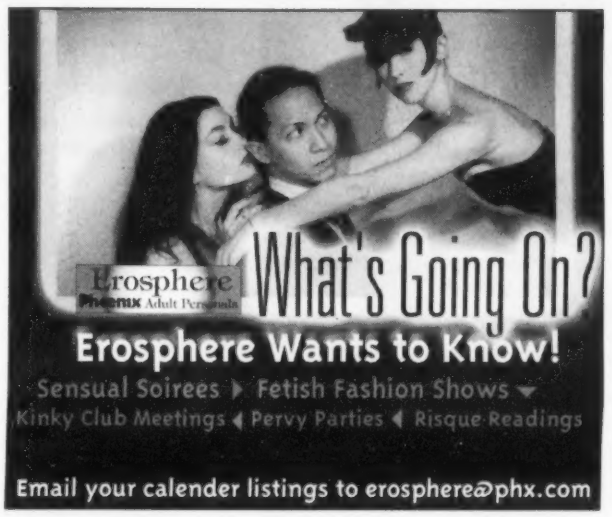
NEED HOT BOTTOM

on regular basis, my place by top GM. Doctor, 44, kind, caring, giving, strong. You must be discreet, under 40, solid, muscular, athletic body, bubble butt. Bisexual, inexperienced welcomed. ❑ ☎4578(exp:04/19)

SEEKING COUPLE

SWM, 46, brown/green, 170lbs, neat, clean and discreet. Seeks couple for friendship and intimate encounters. ☎4588 (exp:03/22)

"Wild and wooly white woman wants hairy male who sweats like a pig. Bring your wife!" ☎ 6977 (exp: 2/14)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UNDIE LINES

Do you enjoy watching the sight of a man's well-rounded bottom walking down Newbury St with skin tight slacks on, clearly showing visible "panty lines"? If so, let's talk. This 35 year old, 6', 185lb bubble butt guy has a strong underpants fetish that involves modeling undies, tight spanking, role play. You need to be at least 25, in shape and into underpants, tight slacks, panty lines, etc. Don't bother responding if you're not. Now put on your tight undies, hopefully from "Pre Vail Sports" and give me a call. ☎7330 (exp:03/22)

A JO club for bi, straight, married men, who enjoy being naked with other men. Ages 21-50. Call for details. ☎ 9088 (exp: 2/14)

Bi white male seeking older male 45-70 must be hung. I like to give deep oral and want to receive first time anal you won't be disappointed ☎ 6832 (exp: 2/21)

BOTTOM

SWM, I am a generous older man, in perfect health, 5'9", 155 lbs, very oral with a virgin butt that I hope a virile top will rectify, help me. Prov area. ☎ 7010 (exp: 2/14)

Gorgeous sexy long leg buxom TV loves to kiss cuddle and orally service BWMF, couples loves to wear bra panties nylons + more. Have place N Prov. ☎ 7012 (exp: 3/7)

I DEEP THROAT

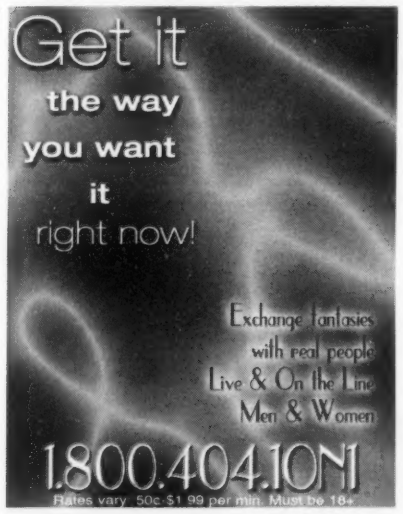
Bi white male looking for straight young in shape guy to receive oral while my girl watches. No fems, fatties or gays need apply. ☎ 7230 (exp: 3/7)

PEE/POOP ON ME

WM, seeks females, couples I'll provide you with intense oral sex in exchange for you peeing and pooping on me. All sizes everybody licked clean. ☎ 7011 (exp: 2/14)

Straight WM wants to JO male while wife or girlfriend watches. My place or yours. Clean and discrete. ☎ 7014 (exp: 2/21)

SWM, 31, 6', muscular, boyish looks, seeks older M (MS) 45+ to tie me up , gag, humiliate,+ torment me while im wearing stockings + heels. Be discrete, diabolical. Your place. SE Ma + R.I. only. ☎ 6976 (exp: 2/14)



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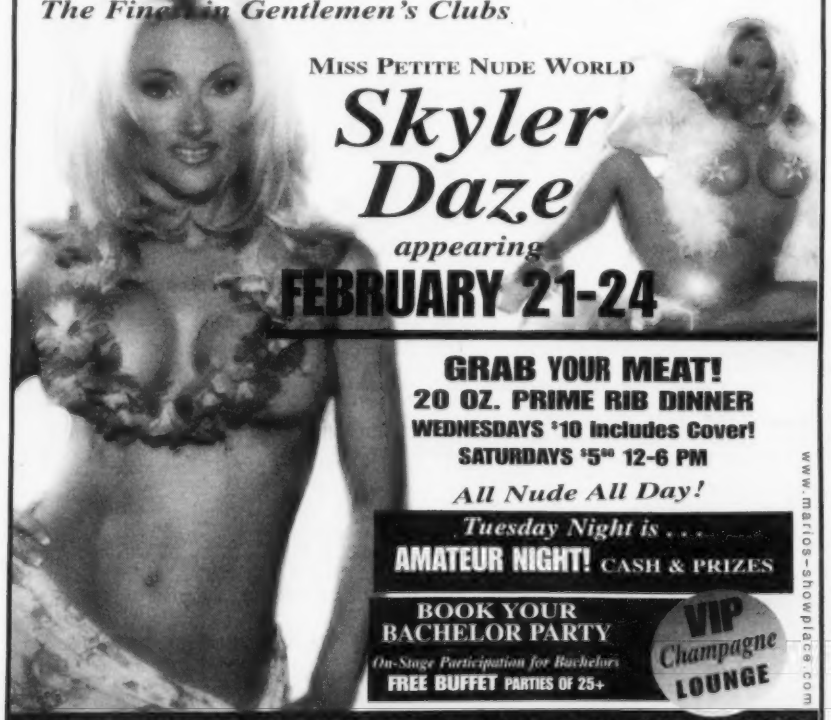

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CONNECTICUT - Hi this is Angell, 20y/o. I want to give you a piece of heaven. Call me. ✆**15157**

CONNECTICUT, *New London* - Well built WM wanted! I'm a WF, 29 & I love spontaneous fun. ✆**12308**

CONNECTICUT - Hi my name is Joe and I am looking for CPL's that enjoy the same things I do. I like food, theater and the outdoors. ✆**60272**

CONNECTICUT - SWM, 46y/o seeks others for adult fun. ✆**26037**

CONNECTICUT - WCPL, 20y/o ISO SM to join me in pleasing my fiancee. ✆**15156**

CONNECTICUT - SM, 30y/o ISO CPL's for new and interesting times. ✆**60100**

CONNECTICUT - Hi can I interest you in a game of twister? Sound boring? Not the way i play it. I'm a SWM 46 years old ISO F or CPL for friendship and erotic fun. I would love to talk one on one. Leave me a message. ✆**60131**

CONNECTICUT, *Hartford area* - We're Craig & Carmen, 44 & 34 & bi-curious. We're ISO CPL's & select bi singles who are ready for some sensuous fun. MA replies welcome. ✆**24156**

CONNECTICUT - Bi curious WM ISO M, TV, TS for friendship, great times and more. ✆**21506**

CONNECTICUT - Hi this is Tina, a bi TV that is very feminine. I have a lot to offer and hot talk turns me on so leave me a message. ✆**13825**

CONNECTICUT, *Southern area* - I'm a SWM, 30's, 5'10", 170# ISO hot CPL's. If you like seeing your girl being pleasured by another man- call ME, I guarantee that she'll have the time of her life! ✆**18246**

MAINE, *Western area* - My name is Joe, 32 & I'd like to meet other guys for safe but exciting times. ✆**12379**

MASSACHUSETTS - Hi my name is Tony and I am looking to meet other people for friendship. ✆**60297**

MASSACHUSETTS - Hi we are a CPL ISO bi F or bi CPL to experiment with. ✆**11053**

MASSACHUSETTS - Hi my name is Rob and I am looking for friends for fun and crazy sex. ✆**11011**

MASSACHUSETTS - Hi we are Raine and Roger. W e are a married WCPL ISO bi F for to have wild fun. ✆**60148**

MASSACHUSETTS - WM, 53y/o ISO CPL's. ✆**10529**

MASSACHUSETTS - Hi my name is Will, 49y/o WM ISO attractive, younger CPL's. ✆**21044**

MASSACHUSETTS - CPL in their 30's ISO CPL with a bi F or a bi SF. ✆**10227**

MASSACHUSETTS - Hi my name is John, 35y/o ISO CPL's in their 40's or 50's.✆**60197**

MASSACHUSETTS - 35y/o SWM ISO CPL for 3 some or to watch. ✆**21344**

MASSACHUSETTS - 39y/o DWM ISO CPL's. I can travel. ✆**17555**

MASSACHUSETTS - 50y/o, good shape, good guy ISO CPL or SF for fun interludes. ✆**26901**

MASSACHUSETTS - Hi my name is Mark, 35y/o, attractive, ISO M CD, TS, TV. I would like to marry one. ✆**28198**

MASSACHUSETTS, *Brockton* - Hi my name is Jaime, 37y/o GWM ISO well hung BM to use me as his boy toy. ✆**28143**

MASSACHUSETTS, *Worcester* - This is Mark, 6'1", 33 & I'm a CD. I'm ISO a CD or a TS for a long-term relationship. I'm also a CD & if we hit it off, maybe you could move in- it would be easier for us to see a lot of each other! ✆**12020**

MASSACHUSETTS, *Danvers* - I'm a bi-curious SWM, 35, 5'8', 170# ISO my 1st bi experience w/another guy. ✆**18584**

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NEW HAMPSHIRE - Hi my name is Mya, 37y/o professional F. If you are interested leave you name and number. ✆**10256**

NEW HAMPSHIRE, *Portsmouth* - Hi guys, my name is Mia, 39. I'm originally from Brazil, love the arts, theater & also erotic phone chats & correspondence. Guys 35+, give me a call. ✆**42148**

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Hi my name is John. I am S and ISO CPL's and select F's that are clean, discreet and uninhibited. ✆**28204**

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NEW HAMPSHIRE - Hi my name is Paul, 40y/o. I love to dress up and I am looking for TS, TV, She-Males and M's that are 20-40y/o. ✆**11488**

NEW HAMPSHIRE, *Rochester* - Bi ladies, I'm Debbie, 36-24-36 & I'm ISO my 1st bi experience. My sexy boyfriend Steve is content w/watching, but I don't feel three is a crowd, do you? ✆**41368**

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RHODE ISLAND - Hi this is George and Diane, 49+48y/o ISO F for her first experience. ✆**10189**

RHODE ISLAND - Hi my name is Ron. I a m 35y/o and I am seeking CPL's. I am straight but I am willing to watch, be watched and possibly join. ✆**26355**

RHODE ISLAND, *Providence area* - Middle aged guys, my name is B. If you'd like to assist me in pleasing my exhibitionist wife, give me a call. No actual contact just lots of fun! ✆**12485**

RHODE ISLAND - Hi my name is James, 23y/o ISO feminine M. ✆**10026**

RHODE ISLAND - Hi my name is Jay, 22y/o ISO nice time . Looking to see what you can do. ✆**10027**

RHODE ISLAND, *Jamestown* - Guys, this is Mike & I'm bi. I'm 5'8", 200# & very oral but I'd like to finally experience the Greek culture. If you can help me out, please let me know. ✆**20855**

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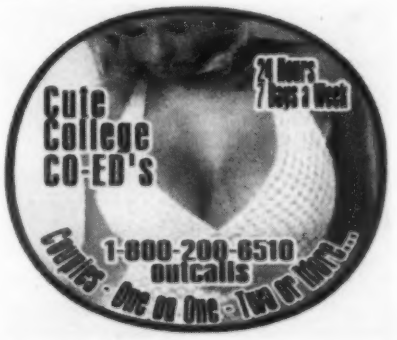

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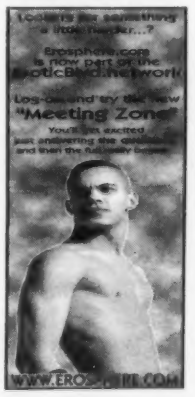

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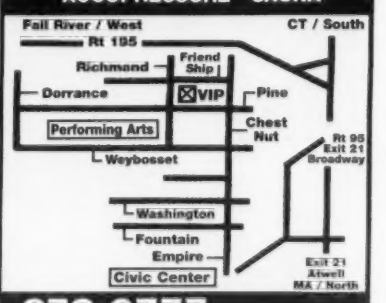

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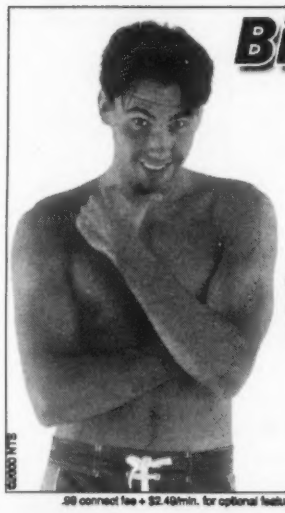

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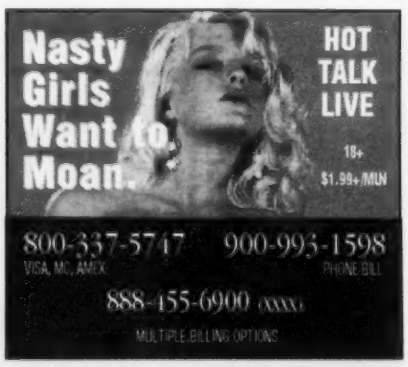

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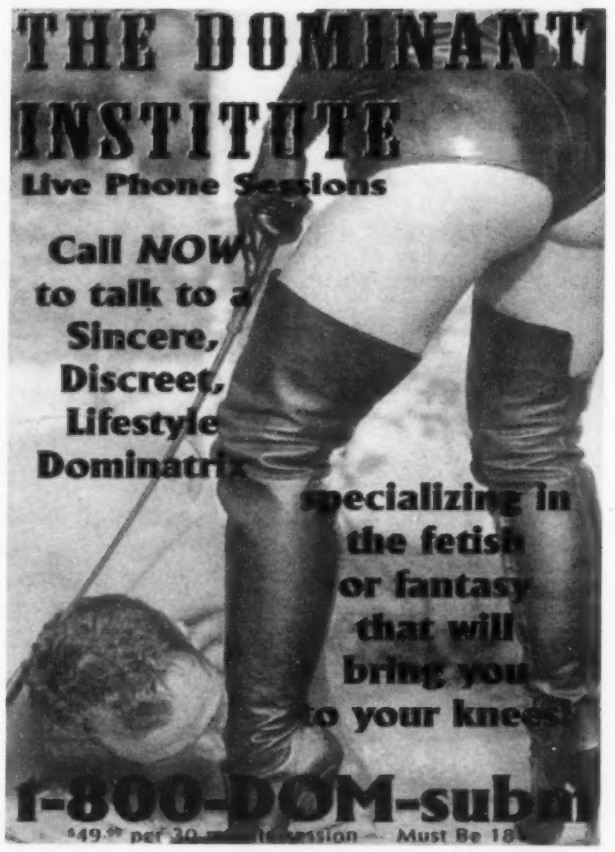

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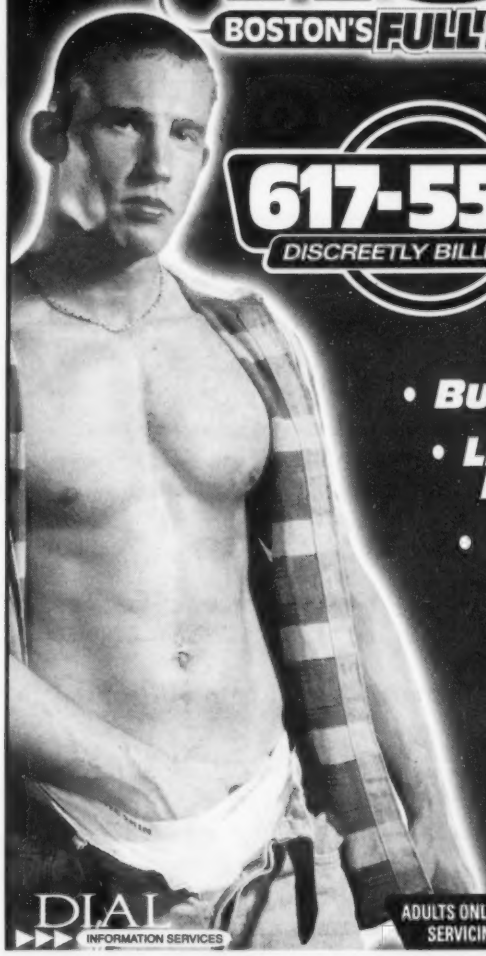

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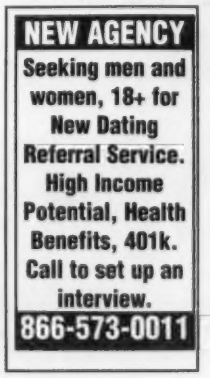
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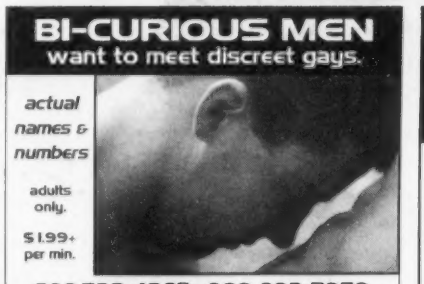

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